Activity and Product Status Report

Project Year 5,
Quarter 3
Apr-Jun 2005

Management Sciences for Health
is a nonprofit organization
strengthening health programs worldwide.

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A report on quarterly progress achieved towards activities, products, and results

May 2006

Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus Program
Activity and Product Status Report

May 1-June 30 2005

May 2006

Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus Program
Center for Pharmaceutical Management
Management Sciences for Health

About RPM Plus

The Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (cooperative agreement HRN-A-00-00-00016-00), works in more than 20 developing countries to provide technical assistance to strengthen drug and health commodity management systems. The program offers technical guidance and assists in strategy development and program implementation both in improving the availability of health commodities—pharmaceuticals, vaccines, supplies, and basic medical equipment—of assured quality for maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, infectious diseases, and family planning and in promoting the appropriate use of health commodities in the public and private sectors.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AB	Africa Bureau
ACF	Allocable Cost Factor
ACTMalaria	Asian Collaborative Training Network for Malaria
AED	Academy for Educational Development
AFR/SD/HRD	Bureau of Africa/Office of Sustainable Development [USAID]
AFRO	Regional Office for Africa [WHO]
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AMI	Amazon Malaria Initiative
AMR	Antimicrobial Resistance
AMTSL	Active Management of the Third Stage of Labor
ANE	Asia and Near East [Bureau, USAID]
APUA	Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics
ARCH	Applied Research for Child Health [Project]
ART	Anti-Retroviral Treatment
ARV	Anti-Retrovirals
BASICS	Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival [Project]
BASICS II	Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival II [Project]
BGH	USAID Bureau of Global Health
BNMT	British Nepal Medical Trust
BU	Boston University
C-DMCI	Community Level Drug Management for Childhood Illness
C-IMCI	Community – Integrated Management of Childhood Illness
CA	Cooperating Agency
CAR	Central Asian Republics
CBOH	Central Board of Health [Zambia]
CDC	U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDMAT	Community Drug Management Assessment Tool]
CDP	Community Drug Program
CES	Cost-Estimate Strategy
CPG	Clinical Practice Guidelines
CNM	National Malaria Center
CPM	Center for Pharmaceutical Management
CRHC	Commonwealth Regional Health Community
CRHCS	Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat
DELIVER	John Snow, Inc., follow-on to FPLM project
DFID	Department for International Development [U.K.]
DILSAT	District Integrated Logistics Self-Assessment Tool
DMCI	Drug Management for Childhood Illness
DMIS	Drug Management Information System
DMTB	Drug Management for Tuberculosis
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course [WHO]
DPR Korea	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
DR	Dominican Republic
DQI	Drug Quality and Information
DTC	Drug and Therapeutics Committee
ECSA	East, Central and Southern Africa
E&E	Europe and Eurasia [Bureau, USAID]

EDM	*See* WHO/EDM
E&E/EEST/HRHA	Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, Office of Environment, Energy and Social Transition, Health Reform and Humanitarian Assistance Division (USAID)
ESA	Eastern and Southern Africa
EU	European Union
FF	Forward Funding
FHI	Family Health International
FHI/IMPACT	FHI/Implementing AIDS Prevention and Care [Project]
FPLM	Family Planning Logistics Management [Project]
FY	Fiscal Year
GDF	Global Drug Facility
GFATM	Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (German Technical Cooperation Agency)
HANDS	Health and Development Service
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
Project HOPE	Health Opportunities for People Everywhere
HS2004	Health Systems 2004 Project
HSR	Health Sector Reform
HSRI	Health Sector Reform Initiative
IC	Infection Control
ICDDR,B Bangladesh	International Center for Diarrheal Disease Research,
ICIUM	International Conference on Improving Use of Medicines
ID	Infectious Disease
IDI	Infectious Disease Initiative
IMCI	Integrated Management of Childhood Illness
IMPACT	Interdisciplinary Monitoring Project for Antimalarial Combination Therapy [Tanzania]
INRUD	International Network for Rational Use of Drugs
IPT	Intermittent Preventive Treatment
IT	Information Technology
IUATLD	International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
JHPIEGO	Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Gynecology and Obstetrics
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JRIIUM	Joint Research Initiative for Improving Use of Medicines
JSI	John Snow, Incorporated
KEMSA	Kenya Medical Supplies Agency
KfW	German Development Bank (German acronym)
KNCV	Royal Netherlands Tuberculosis Association (Dutch acronym)
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LUDHMT	Lusaka Urban District Health Management Team [Zambia]
M&L	Monitoring and Leadership [Program]
MAC	Malaria Action Coalition
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MEDS	Missions Essential Drugs Store
MIM	Multilateral Initiative on Malaria
MNH	Maternal and Neonatal Health [Project]
MOH	Ministry of Health

MSD	Medicines Stores Department
MSH	Management Sciences for Health
NACC	National Antibiotic Coordinating Committee [Nepal]
NFHP	National Family Health Program
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIS	Newly Independent States
NMCC	National Malaria Control Center
NMCP	National Malaria Control Program
NMS	National Medical Stores
NTP	National TB Program
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
OHA	Office of HIV/AIDS Services (USAID)
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PHC	primary health care
PHN	Population, Health and Nutrition [Center for, USAID]
PHRplus	Partners for Health Reform – plus (follow-on to PHR) [USAID]
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother –to-Child Transmission]
PPH	Post Partum Hemorrhage
PPS	Pharmaceutical Procurement Service
PRDU	Promoting Rational Drug Use
PRISM	Pour Renforcer les Interventions en Santé Maternelle et MST/SIDA
PROMESS	Programme des Médicaments Essentiels [Haiti]
PY	Project Year
QA	Quality Assurance
RBM	Roll Back Malaria
REDSO	Regional Economic Development Support Office [USAID]
RFP	Request for Proposal
RLI	Regional Logistics Initiative [REDSO]
RPM	Rational Pharmaceutical Management [Project]
RPM Plus	Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus [Program]
RUD	rational use of drugs
SDMD	Strengthening Drug Management at the District Level Program [Nepal]
SEAM	Strategies for Enhancing Access to Medicines [Program]
SESPAS	Health Secretariat (Dominican Republic) [Secretaria de Salud Pública y Asistencia Social]
SO	Strategic Objective [USAID]
SOPs	Standard Operational Procedures
S/P	Sulfadoxine/Pyrimethamine
SSO	Strategic Support Objective
STGs	Standard Treatment Guidelines
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
TA	Technical Assistance
TB	Tuberculosis
TBCTA	USAID TB Coalition for Technical Assistance
TBD	To Be Determined
TOT	Training-of-Trainers
UK	United Kingdom
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

URC	University Research Co.
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USAID/G/PHN	U.S. Agency for International Development/Global Bureau Center for Population Health and Nutrition
USP	United States Pharmacopeia
VCT	Voluntary HIV/AIDS Counseling and Testing [USAID initiative]
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization
WHO/EDM	WHO/Essential Drugs and Other Medicines Policy
ZIHP	Zambia Integrated Health Project
ZVCT	Zambia Voluntary Counseling and Training

NARRATIVES - GLOBAL PROGRAMS

SO2: MATERNAL HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Overview

RPM Plus will continue providing technical assistance to drug and supply management issues that might hinder active management of the third stage of labor (AMTSL) to prevent PPH in collaboration with the Prevention of Post-Partum Hemorrhage Initiative (POPPHI), a partnership comprised of PATH, RTI International, EngenderHealth, the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) and the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO). Supporting partners include RPM Plus, HealthTech, and JHPIEGO's Access to Clinical and Community Maternal, Neonatal and Women's Health Services (ACCESS). This group of USAID-funded partners work together at the policy and program levels in selected regions and countries to both support interventions through expanded use of Active Management of the Third Stage of Labor (AMTSL) and the development of structures that sustain the continued emphasis on the practice over the long term.

In particular, RPM Plus will be focusing on West Africa. Some countries in W. Africa namely Ghana, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Benin and Mali have introduced and expanded the use of AMSTL. Others have recently begun expanding use with support from earlier USAID-funded activities. Major hurdles related to the range of drugs and their routes of administration exist to prevent AMSTL from becoming a universally available intervention. RPM Plus is supporting the expansion of means to make AMSTL more widely available through addressing some of these hurdles.

RPM Plus also proposes to explore the potential for harmonization of STGs as an initial step in establishing pooled procurement procedures in West Africa. Many countries in the West Africa region do not have, or have widely different, standard treatment guidelines (STG) for AMSTL. Standardization of the approach to intervention delivery would allow for mechanisms such as regional pooled procurement of the drug(s) of choice to be put in place so as to make the purchase quantities attractive to both buyer and supplier. The feasibility of standardization of approach, and thus the drug(s) of choice, needs to be explored.

RPM Plus activities under USAID/G/PHN SSO2 focus on three main technical objectives:

Objective 1: Through strategic partnerships with and technical leadership to USAID and USAID-supported CAs working in maternal health, improve maternal health program planning and service delivery with respect to drug and commodity management issues.

Objective 2: Enhance the capacity of government and non-governmental organizations to manage drugs and supplies for key maternal health services.

Objective 3: Improve capacity and awareness of global maternal health initiatives and partners in addressing Maternal Health pharmaceutical and supply management issues.

Major Activities of Quarter

The pharmaceutical management component of the survey instrument for AMSTL was finalized and submitted to POPPHI consultants for implementation. A process to gather the STGs from West African countries was initiated in collaboration with USAID AWARE/RH Project.

SO3: CHILD SURVIVAL

Overview

In many developing countries, child mortality remains unacceptably high. Childhood diseases such as malaria, diarrheal diseases, acute respiratory infections, measles, and malnutrition, in addition to HIV/AIDS, contribute substantially to infant and child mortality. In response to the high mortality caused by these main childhood illnesses, the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) strategy, developed jointly by WHO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), has been implemented in numerous countries to offer program managers and service providers an integrated approach to effectively manage childhood illness. Notwithstanding considerable efforts to make essential IMCI drugs and other commodities available, significant gaps and management problems persist at various levels of the health system in many developing countries. RPM Plus child survival activities funded under SO3 are complementary to USAID/Africa Bureau child survival interventions and both sets of activities support SSO3 and corresponding intermediate results. The activities are conducted through synergistic funding to produce greater impact and the two workplans share the same technical objectives. RPM Plus activities under USAID/G/PHN SO3, "increased use of key child health and nutrition interventions," focus on four main technical objectives during year 4 (FY03): 1. To enable decision makers, managers, and service providers to identify and monitor strengths and weakness in drug management for child health through the use of tools targeting public and private providers and caregivers 2. To increase the capacity of decision makers and service providers to design and apply appropriate interventions to improve availability and use of child health drugs in the public sector 3. To increase access to and use of child health drugs through initiatives involving the private sector. 4. To contribute toward shaping global child health strategy to include drug management through collaboration with international bodies and other organizations Through its Strategic Objective 3, USAID supports interventions and activities to address child survival problems. In response to the USAID initiatives, RPM Plus has established a strong working relationship with groups and organizations to develop activities aimed at improving the IMCI drug management system in countries of interventions. IMCI is implemented as a comprehensive strategy including preventive and curative interventions to ensure high quality of care to sick children and to facilitate behavior changes of caregivers for children. However, the supply and management of essential drugs and vaccines have been identified as critical pieces to allow an effective management of childhood illness. In many countries, the lack or absence of essential drugs and resources for IMCI is a constant impediment. In other countries, essential drugs are poorly managed if they exist at all, and treatment decisions and behaviors are not rational. Moreover, limitation to access IMCI services is often coupled with weakness of the pharmaceutical systems, where service providers and managers are poorly trained, resulting in ineffective drug and commodity management practices. These issues—both in the public and private sector and at household level—are a focus for RPM Plus activities in the child survival portfolio, as well as advocating for pharmaceutical management being part of global, regional and national child survival agendas.

Major activities this quarter

A Senior Program Associate who will be working on the RPM Plus Tanzania portfolio, and possibly other Child Survival activities, was oriented to child survival activities. Private Sector Initiatives The Tanzania Food and Drug Authority (TFDA) approved the meeting report of the stakeholder meeting in February 2005 and a working group was established. The working group was convened in May 2005 in a 3 day retreat to create the program design and preliminary budget. A Senior Program Associate was recruited and hired in Tanzania to implement the child health private sector activities. An abstract and presentation on the planned Child Survival activities in the private sector in Tanzania was prepared for the SEAM conference in Accra as an innovative example. Zinc Guidelines of key messages for the zinc job aids for private pharmacies were drafted and shared with USAID. Other USAID partners working in health communications were contacted to discuss job aid production. Involvement of RPM Plus in zinc activities was discussed at USAID and clarity of role was sought. USAID Mainstreaming activity The CSTS Technical Reference Materials on pharmaceutical management were reviewed and updated. The pharmaceutical module for the USAID health systems assessment package was drafted and RPM Plus attended a meeting with USAID to discuss the goals of the tool and review the draft assessment tool. The revised template, redrafted model and updates were sent to USAID and field testing will occur in July. Dissemination The Access database for data analysis of the C-DMCI assessment tool was completed and used for data analysis in Cambodia by a local NGO. Commodity tracking for Child Health A concept paper on using the HIV commodity tracking tool for resource tracking for child health was written and presented for a Child Survival meeting in London. The group decided to move ahead with use of the tool in two countries and to present experiences in December 2005. Community case management of ARI Participated in discussions with the CORE Group and members on ARI work in DRC and Rwanda in ARI as well as potential collaboration on a guide for Community case management of ARI.

SO4 HIV/AIDS

Overview

The availability of pharmaceutical drugs and commodities is an essential component of HIV/AIDS health strategies in developing countries. However, the vast majority of people living with HIV/AIDS in developing countries do not have access to the pharmaceutical products that could prolong and improve their lives. Improving access to HIV/AIDS-related pharmaceutical products presents many challenges, including those that are directly related to pharmaceutical commodity management.

RPM Plus activities under USAID/G/PHN SSO4, "increased use of improved, effective and sustainable responses to reduce HIV transmission and mitigate the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic," focus on four main technical objectives:

1. To increase the capacity of USAID and USAID-funded cooperating agencies (CAs) to procure quality drugs and commodities for HIV/AIDS programs and provide assistance in addressing contextual issues

2. To increase the capacity of USAID and USAID-funded CAs to identify, prioritize and address commodity management issues to support the introduction or scaling up of HIV/AIDS programs and services

3. To provide technical leadership to USAID to identify key issues, form strategic partnerships and to develop and support approaches and initiatives to address HIV/AIDS-related commodity management issues at global and regional levels

4. To increase the capacity of national governments and the private sector to identify, prioritize and address commodity management issues to improve access to and use of quality drugs and commodities for HIV/AIDS programs

Major activities this quarter

In the third quarter of FY04-PY05, RPM Plus continued to implement strategies for an expanded response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic focusing on the four technical objectives outlined above. RPM plus provided technical assistance and facilitated in a training workshop held in Arusha, Tanzania in collaboration with the ECSA Health Community (formerly Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat). The following countries participated at the workshop: Eritrea, Angola, Zimbabwe, Sudan, Kenya, Zambia, Botswana, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Namibia, Swaziland, Zanzibar, Mozambique, and South Africa. In addition to capacity building, some countries were also supported to develop and finalize their PSM plans. in April 2005.

A similar workshop focusing on training was held June 2005 in Abuja, Nigeria. The following 9 West African countries participated: Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Benin, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Zambia, Ghana, and Senegal. At this workshop three countries were supported to develop and finalize their PSM plans. During the course of the

workshop three countries (Gambia, Senegal and Sierra Leone) were supported to develop and finalize their PSM plans.
RPM plus made technical presentations in addition to providing technical assistance to countries as they developed and finalized their PSM plans.

During this quarter, RPM Plus also continued work on development and dissemination of tools and documents from the previous year's funding including the annual update of the HIV Test Kits with information on prices, shelf life on delivery, countries where the product is registered and the source and origin of the product.

On ART adherence work, three papers were developed and submitted for final review. Abstracts for the International Conference on AIDS and STDs in Africa (ICASA) were developed and submitted. Preliminary discussions were held with regards to adapting the TB motivations mapping tool to HIV/AIDS. Revisions/updates were made to the RPM Plus adherence web pages and work was initiated on revising the adherence survey.

Development of generic pharmaceutical management and laboratory training materials for HIV/AIDS continued as planned.

In the TB/HIV collaboration activity, an initial literature review showed that the pharmaceutical management aspects of TB/HIV collaboration were not well documented in the current literature. The study approach was therefore modified to include site assessments in different countries which reported ongoing or planned activities in TB/HIV collaboration. A two phase study outline was prepared and reviewed. A list of countries for which the literature review suggests ongoing TB/HIV collaborative activities were prepared. An interview guide was prepared and reviewed to be used at national level with key stakeholders involved in TB and HIV pharmaceutical management.

During 2003/2004, RPM Plus developed a database to serve as a repository to catalogue HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals being provided to targeted countries. The database needs to be tested with real procurement data from the field. RPM initiated collection of data in a selected number of countries targeted through the Presidential Emergency Plan, catalogue it and analyze it. This will enable RPM Plus to provide feedback to USAID to support their decision making process. The outcome of this activity will provide a test case for including HIV/AIDS commodities being provided to target countries by other major HIV/AIDS donor initiatives (i.e., the Global Fund, the World Bank, and the Clinton Foundation) to be added to the database. Reports from the system will serve to make inter-country comparisons and will serve to track commodity flow in respect to program targets. Initial work however revealed while entering information available from IDA invoices for Ethiopia, Kenya, Haiti procurements, several program errors. As a result, RPM Plus requested a structural redesign for improved functionality and decided to purchase the upgrade, again for improved functionality and usability.

SO5: ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

Overview

The use of antimicrobial agents has contributed to the control of many serious infections worldwide. Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is a natural outcome of using antimicrobials and is exacerbated by excessive and inappropriate use. AMR is a serious, complex health-care problem occurring worldwide and is dramatically increasing. Resistance makes infections more difficult to treat, raises levels of morbidity/mortality, and increases healthcare costs. Under USAID/G/PHN SO5: Infectious Diseases/Antimicrobial Resistance, "increased use of effective interventions to reduce the threat of infectious diseases of major public health importance," RPM Plus is currently working on activities towards addressing AMR problems in developing countries. The following is a brief narrative of the progress achieved in this quarter (FY04-PY5 Q3).

Major Activities This Quarter

Progress continues on the Country Level AMR Advocacy and Containment Program in Zambia. The rapid assessment on continuing education offered to health providers in on AMR and rational antimicrobial use is complete and a draft report has been submitted to RPM Plus. The AMR Advocacy Working Group (AWG), in collaboration with the Zambia National Formulary Committee (ZNFC) and the Central Board of Health, organized a workshop June 27th to 29th, with a focus on implementation and utilization of the STGs for infectious diseases of major public health importance as a way to support the overall AMR activity in Zambia. About 30 physicians both from the public and private sectors attended. Dr. Joshi presented the pilot application of the USAID country AMR containment approach in Zambia and the lessons learned so far from this experience at the SEAM Conference held in Accra, Ghana from June 20 to 22, 2005. The activity on "Preventing Resistance to Antiretrovirals by Improving Adherence" now has an activity manager. The activity is comprised of two major elements. One is an ART adherence measurement tool and another is an adherence promotion initiative. The next steps are to travel to South Africa to work with Gavin Steel to refine and contextualize the proposal, and to secure approval of the activity by the South African National Department of Health. The activity to Develop Guidelines for the Review of Curricula Addressing AMR began this quarter. The preliminary stages of this project have involved extensive literature search and review in the areas of: the background for the need for AMR, AMR curricula content, and curriculum development and change in medical education. This year's Drug and Therapeutics Committees and Training of Trainer's course is slated for Malaysia, Nov. 28 to Dec. 10, 2005. The DTC-TOT course announcement and application was finalized and widely disseminated. The announcement and application were distributed through e-drug, and email contacts of participants from previous PRDU and DTC courses, and the ICIUM and SEAM conferences. Secretariat contracting with USM was finalized. Follow up of previous DTC TOT course participants continues. A few participants from the DTC course in Uganda regularly provide updates. A spreadsheet was developed to capture those efforts as they

are shared. Efforts to Support Implementation of Research Agenda Identified by ICIUM 2004 is a follow-on activity to last year's ICIUM. Currently, the AMR portfolio is funding two research projects that involve the community in containing AMR. In Vietnam study interventions have been initiated and a mid-term report submitted. For the coming six months the interventions will be completed and the evaluation will take place in early 2006. In Thailand, a progress report for the final phase was received. The activity to develop a User's Guide describing AMR resources available on the internet began during this quarter. Production of the guide is about 70% completed. The Promoting Rational Drug Use Training of Trainers' course in Namibia was successfully carried out from April 18th to 30th 2005. All participants of last years' PRDU/TOT course in Kenya have been contacted to find out if any changes occurred as a result of the course. AMR Portfolio team developed and submitted an "AMR Terminology" glossary for use by VOA journalists. APUA is a partner on this activity and has also worked extensively with VOA. The draft AMR module for the DHS underwent significant review and commentary by members of CPM. The revised draft AMR module was shared and discussed with ORC Macro along with a draft table of indicators to accompany the module. APUA developed and submitted the GAARD manuscript to the Clinical Infectious Disease Journal for publication. APUA also organized a congressional briefing for July 19, 2005 about the GAARD Report.

SO5: MALARIA

Overview

The mounting pressure for RBM partners to act swiftly and to support the adoption and implementation of ACTs as a first-line treatment in countries where resistance to common malarials such as Chloroquine and suphadoxine-pyrimethamine has highlighted the critical role of the RBM Partnership Secretariat. Within the RBM Partnership Secretariat, the Malaria Medicines and Supplies Service (MMSS) has been established to facilitate access to ACTs, rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) and nets.

RPM Plus activities under SO5 focus on two broad objectives:

1. Improve the supply and quality of antimalarials and related supplies
2. Improve the management and use of antimalarials

Major Activities this Quarter

Prototype forecasting database for MMSS completed. Data entry started. An application for assisting MMSS with workflow for CoArtem procurement will be developed. Support was provided to MMSS for assisting with CoArtem procurement and forecasting. A checklist for ACT implementation has been developed and tested through field visits to 4 countries: Ethiopia, Burundi, Senegal, and Benin. Trip reports are pending. It has also been used in Madagascar and DRC. The ACT Implementation Guide has been revised to incorporate revisions proposed by USP. The English version will be finalized by MMSS and the French translation also revised by MMSS.

SO5: TUBERCULOSIS

Overview

Tuberculosis continues to be a major international killer disease because of poor access to effective high quality TB drugs, irrational treatment decisions and behaviors, and counterproductive financial priorities practiced by some national health systems. In addition, poor access to vital TB drugs is often linked to weak pharmaceutical systems where managers are poorly trained, resulting in ineffective drug management practices.

With the establishment of global initiatives such as the Global Drug Facility (GDF) and the Global Fund for Aids, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (GFATM) and with an increasing availability of funds and TB drugs in many developing countries, the strengthening of local capacity to manage these drugs and funds becomes all the more challenging.

RPM Plus has identified three technical objectives which are key to meeting the challenge of strengthening local TB drug management capacity:

1. Objective 1: Improve capacity and awareness of TB global initiatives and partners in managing commodities for TB programs
2. Objective 2: Increase the capacity of TB programs to design, apply, and monitor appropriate interventions to ensure uninterrupted supply of quality TB commodities
3. Objective 3: Increase the evidence base for improvements in TB commodity management

During Quarter 3 of RPM Plus Year 5 (April 1 – June 30, 2005), RPM Plus activities contributed to these objectives through a combination of:

- Technical leadership, provided through participation in workshops and conferences (Objectives 1 and 2)
- Collaboration with key TB players, such as Stop TB, GLC, WHO, and the GDF and TBCTA (Objectives 1 and 2)
- Support to the field and capacity building, through participation in the GDF field visits (Objective 2)

Major activities this quarter

Provide TA in TB drug management to NTP in Pakistan.

This is a fiscal year 3 or project year 4 funded activity. During this quarter, MSH/RPM plus developed a technical proposal for Pakistan. The proposal outlined weaknesses, recommended activities for implementation and listed available RPM Plus tools that can be used to strengthen the TB pharmaceutical system.

Assist GDF in expediting response to DOTS expansion

An RPM Plus TB expert attended the GDF 11th Technical Review Committee (TRC) meeting in Geneva this quarter. RPM Plus is a member of the TRC. RPM Plus provided technical assistance to the GDF by conducting a field test of the TB laboratory diagnostic kit in Tajikistan.

RPM Plus continues to provide technical assistance to the Global TB Drug Facility (GDF) by conducting country monitoring missions for direct procurement of first line TB medicines. This quarter, three third year monitoring missions were conducted in Kenya, Moldova and Congo Brazzaville. A first year monitoring mission was conducted in Egypt. RPM Plus also carried-out GDF monitoring mission report audit for two countries.

Provide technical leadership in TB pharmaceutical management to WHO and Stop TB partners

During this quarter, an RPM Plus TB expert attended the 11th meeting of TB Training and Education Collaborative for WHO European Region held in Copenhagen, Denmark. The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate training activities for TB between CAs and partners working in the E&E regions. A presentation was made on the capacity and experience of RPM Plus in pharmaceutical management and TB training.

Assist GLC in establishing pharmaceutical management programs at DOTS Plus pilots

RPM Plus conducted a training course on TB pharmaceutical management in collaboration with WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO), KNCV Netherlands, Global TB Drug Facility (GDF), Green Light Committee (GLC) and National Tuberculosis and Control Program (NTP) Egypt. The workshop "Pharmaceutical Management for Tuberculosis" was held from May 8 to 12, 2005 in Cairo Egypt. 16 participants from 7 countries in the WHO EMRO and SEARO regions attended the workshop.

Develop TB drug management capacity of WHO and Stop TB consultants

RPM Plus pharmaceutical management specialist facilitated sessions on TB pharmaceutical management for the WHO consultants course in Sondolo, Italy

Increase capacity of Global initiatives to evaluate and monitor TB drug management in high-burden countries

RPM Plus continues to support STOP TB/GDF in the area of building consultant capacity for GDF monitoring missions. During this quarter, RPM Plus communicated with WHO

Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) and WHO South East Asia Regional Office (SEARO) to establish a date for a proposed course to train consultants on pharmaceutical management for GDF monitoring missions. The discussions addressed level of support for participants by collaborating organizations among other things. A tentative date and location for the course has been determined; November 2005 in Hanoi Vietnam.

Strengthen the capacity of country and global partners in improving TB program performance through the use of incentives and enablers

During this quarter, RPM Plus attended the annual Stop TB Public-Private Mix (PPM) DOTS sub-group meeting in Manila, Philippines. RPM Plus contributed to the section on I&E for PPM global guidelines document.

Promote use of patient kits and FDCs in TB control programs

An RPM Plus TB pharmaceutical management specialist visited Kenya to conduct a brief assessment of phase one TB patient kit implementation in collaboration with local counterparts. The assessment analyzed the strengths and weaknesses of the implementation plan; providing options to strengthen the current strategy before roll out.

Investigate the evidence for integrating TB and HIV/AIDS commodity management programs

During this quarter, RPM Plus finalized the study protocol for TB/HIV collaboration and interview guide for data collection. Initial planning for conducting the study in selected countries has begun. A consultant has been identified to conduct the study in Brazil. Planning for this activity is ongoing.

COMMON AGENDA

Overview

USAID staff and RPM Plus developed a list of topics that were considered both vital and difficult to classify within a particular Strategic Objective (SO). The varied activities within the common agenda portfolio have continued to play an anchor role for RPM Plus. The Common Agenda is intended to identify (and provide funding for) overarching health commodity issues that RPM Plus should address.

Overall objectives for the Common Agenda topics include:

1. Improve availability and use of health commodities
2. Increase and/or leverage resources for health commodities with donors, foundations, the World Bank, and selected NGOs
3. Develop increased drug management capacity to improve health system performance
4. Provide technical leadership and support in drug management to global initiatives and BGH programs
5. Conduct joint country assessments of commodity management with DELIVER and other contractors, as appropriate
6. Promote the development of a global research agenda for drug management and drug use practices
7. Develop RPM Plus distance learning tools

Major Activities This Quarter

No progress reported.

MAINSTREAMING INITIATIVE

Overview

The Health System Strengthening Mainstreaming Initiative was kicked off in 2004. The purpose of the Mainstreaming Initiative is to identify cost-effective ways to put the combined knowledge, expertise and tools from USAID's health system strengthening projects at the service of USAID's large bilateral health service delivery projects and to improve the capacity of these projects to achieve USAID's health impact objectives. The need for this initiative came from the observation that in many cases PHN officers are ill-equipped to identify and address systems issues that could impact on their efforts, and that many bilaterals have not been availing themselves of existing proven tools and methods. In this way, the Mainstreaming Initiative represents an effort to systematize the lessons from these past experiences that have applicability at the service delivery level and identifies enhancing health system capacities as a core programmatic objective.

Major activities this quarter

RPM Plus participated in meetings with other partners to discuss the goals of the mainstreaming initiative and how partners might contribute to them. Initials outline of a health system performance tools was defined.

RPM Plus made a presentation to NEPS on pharmaceutical management within the context of health systems performance.

NARRATIVES - REGIONAL PROGRAMS

AFRICA BUREAU: CHILD SURVIVAL

Overview

In many developing countries, child mortality remains unacceptably high. Childhood diseases such as malaria, diarrheal diseases, acute respiratory infections, measles, and malnutrition, in addition to HIV/AIDS, contribute substantially to infant and child mortality. In response to the high mortality caused by these main childhood illnesses, the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) strategy, developed jointly by WHO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), has been implemented in numerous countries to offer program managers and service providers an integrated approach to effectively manage childhood illness. Notwithstanding considerable efforts to make essential IMCI drugs and other commodities available, significant gaps and management problems persist at various levels of the health system in many developing countries.

RPM Plus child survival activities funded under SO3 are complementary to USAID/Africa Bureau child survival interventions and both sets of activities support SSO3 and corresponding intermediate results. The activities are conducted through synergistic funding to produce greater impact and the two workplans share the same technical objectives. RPM Plus activities under USAID/G/PHN SO3, "increased use of key child health and nutrition interventions," focus on four main technical objectives during year 4 (FY03):

1. To enable decision makers, managers, and service providers to identify and monitor strengths and weakness in drug management for child health through the use of tools targeting public and private providers and caregivers;

2. To increase the capacity of decision makers and service providers to design and apply appropriate interventions to improve availability and use of child health drugs in the public sector;

3. To increase access to and use of child health drugs through initiatives involving the private sector;

4. To contribute toward shaping global child health strategy to include drug management through collaboration with international bodies and other organizations

Through its Strategic Objective 3, USAID supports interventions and activities to address child survival problems. In response to the USAID initiatives, RPM Plus has established a strong working relationship with groups and organizations to develop activities aimed at improving the IMCI drug management system in countries of interventions. IMCI is implemented as a comprehensive strategy including preventive and curative interventions to

ensure high quality of care to sick children and to facilitate behavior changes of caregivers for children. However, the supply and management of essential drugs and vaccines have been identified as critical pieces to allow an effective management of childhood illness. In many countries, the lack or absence of essential drugs and resources for IMCI is a constant impediment. In other countries, essential drugs are poorly managed, if they exist at all, and treatment decisions and behaviors are not rational. Moreover, limitation to access IMCI services is often coupled with weakness of the pharmaceutical systems, where service providers and managers are poorly trained, resulting in ineffective drug and commodity management practices. These issues—both in the public and private sector and at household level—are a focus for RPM Plus activities in the child survival portfolio, as well as advocating for pharmaceutical management being part of global, regional and national child survival agendas.

Major activities this quarter

RPM Plus participated in discussions with PVO partners about collaboration in Rwanda. Probable activities include using the C-DMCI to assess availability of cotrimoxazole in the community and contributing to the baseline assessments of Intrahealth and IRC to ensure aspects of pharmaceutical management are included. RPM Plus analyzed pharmaceutical management data from the DMCI component of the WHO AFRO IMCI facility survey in Mozambique. A report on the results of the pharmaceutical components was produced and shared with WHO AFRO Harare and Mozambique as well as the MOH in Mozambique.

CENTRAL ASIAN REPUBLICS

Overview

Uninterrupted supply of TB pharmaceuticals is an essential component of DOTS strategy. Quality of supplied medicines is critical for successful DOTS implementation. TB medicines of substandard quality can affect treatment outcomes and contribute to an increase in the drug resistance rate. A complex approach is needed to address this issue within the framework of the NTP. During recent years, Central Asian Republics, including Kazakhstan, made a number of requests to obtain technical assistance in the area of drug quality assurance. Based on preceding discussion with the Ministry of Health and USAID, RPM Plus collected samples of TB medicines from health facilities in a number of oblasts in Kazakhstan (four samples were collected by USP). The collected samples were tested by USP laboratory and two laboratories in Kazakhstan. The follow-up on findings and the subsequent analysis were provided during the *Quality Assurance of the Anti-Tuberculosis Drugs* conference on May 24-27, 2004. Taking into account the transition of Kazakhstan to a decentralized procurement system, the conference addressed the procurement options and their implications for the quality of TB medicines. To follow up on the results of the conference and to address the requests of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan for technical assistance in drug quality assurance component of pharmaceutical management of the National TB programs (NTP), RPM Plus will carry out a regional training on drug quality assurance methods, specifically TLC-based Minilab procedures.

Major activities this quarter

In June 2005, RPM Plus, and USAID met with the Director and the Deputy Director of Kazakhstan National Center for Expertise of Drugs, Medical Products and Equipment, to discuss the tentative dates of the training, selection of participants and training venue, placement of the Minilabs, organizing of the workshop; and to check availability of some laboratory reagents and regulations concerning the import and customs clearance of these reagents. Dr. Berdimuratova, the Director of the Center, suggested holding the training at the National Center for Expertise on Drugs, Medical Products and Equipment, and kindly offered several rooms with furniture and equipment that can serve for the training. Dr. Berdimuratova identified a DQA as a priority area for Kazakhstan; the Center is going to procure additional Minilabs for each oblast (due to transition to a decentralized drug procurement, the oblasts should develop a capacity to test the medicines locally). Dr. Berdimuratova requested additional assistance from RPM Plus, to expand current training (TOT), and provide training in other aspects of drug quality assurance (to be funded by the Government of Kazakhstan/the Center).

In June 2005, RPM Plus Senior Program Associate also met with USAID, and two representatives from CAPACITY Program. RPM Plus Senior Program Associate shared the summary of the results of the meetings with the MOH, other national counterparts, and international organizations in each of the participating countries. The summary included the recognition of the importance of DQA issues by the governments of Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan,

and Uzbekistan, and DRA in these countries. RPM Plus shared an information provided by Tajikistan DRA regarding an influx of counterfeit medicines on the border with China and request from the Ministries of Health in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan for expanding the RPM Plus assistance to cover laboratory testing of other medicines, including antimalarials and ARV medicines.

RPM Plus also mentioned that the GFATM (TB) Coordinators in both countries committed to providing a financial support to continue DQA activities beyond the training point (GFATM in Kyrgyzstan is planning to purchase additional Minilabs to test the quality of medicines to be procured through GFATM funding and offered funding for current and upcoming RPM Plus trainings; GFATM in Tajikistan considers replenishing lab supplies for Minilab testing and funding for monitoring trips). Recognition of the importance of DQA training and further support for this activity, and the willingness of countries to leverage the funding for the follow up on RPM Plus DQA activities has been an important indicator of a need for this assistance and success of RPM Plus work in the region.

The request of the Ministries of Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and the request from the National Center for Expertise on Drugs, Medical Products and Equipment in Kazakhstan, indicated that the countries would benefit from TOT addressing the testing of additional medicines; USAID suggested considering such training in the future (the training can be funded by other USAID programs, such as CAPACITY, the governments of these countries and GFATM). USAID agreed that the exploratory meetings of the RPM Plus with the Chairman of the Pharmaceutical Committee of Kazakhstan can be covered by the CAR funding. Since RPM Plus is going to incur additional expenses due to the change in the training venue (instability in Uzbekistan), procurement of an additional Minilab for Uzbekistan, exploratory meetings with the Pharmaceutical Committee etc, RPM Plus will apply for TARF funding to leverage the local expenses associated with the training.

Future activities

RPM Plus will submit a TARF application upon return from the CAR trip. Other steps include development, translation, and professional editing of the training materials, negotiations and arrangements with TTM and placement of an order for Minilabs and reagents for each participating country (to be done jointly with USP) and communication with the counterparts on preparing and sending the documents needed for the customs clearance

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN - AMAZON MALARIA INITIATIVE

Overview

Malaria is one of the major infectious diseases continuing to pose a serious threat in the Latin America and Caribbean region. The Amazon Malaria Initiative (AMI) was launched in March 2002 by USAID LAC/RSD-PHN to address the impact of ineffective control and treatment of malaria in the different countries of the Amazon Basin (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, French Guiana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela).

The Amazon Basin region began to experience a reemergence of malaria in the early 1990s, including the appearance of *Plasmodium falciparum* and resistance to inexpensive, first-line antimalarial medicines. *P.falciparum* resistance to chloroquine is common and treatment failure rates of 20% have been reported in some areas of the Amazon. Furthermore, resistance to a second-line antimalarial medicine, sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine, has also been reported in Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela. In response, many of the countries in the region have changed their malaria medicine policies and introduced new, more efficacious combination therapies.

The long-term strategy of RPM Plus is to strengthen the ability of policy makers, health care providers and institutions in the region to improve pharmaceutical management. Through AMI, RPM Plus works with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Infectious Disease Division, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the United States Pharmacopoeia Drug Quality Information (USPDQI) Program, country Malaria Program Managers, and the local USAID Missions to effectively develop and strengthen strategies to improve pharmaceutical management for malaria in the region, particularly related to the new policies being designed and implemented.

USAID's LAC Regional Bureau has provided RPM Plus with funds for PY5, which will be added to remaining funds from PY4, to conduct activities with the Amazon Malaria Initiative. These funds reflect USAID's commitment to improving drug management for malaria in the LAC region.

Major activities this quarter

RPM Plus helped organize and facilitate a technical meeting of experts to design a protocol for studying patient adherence to combination therapies in RAVREDA/AMI countries. The meeting took place in Caracas, Venezuela, April 18-20 and was attended by 15 participants, including social scientists and researchers currently involved with adherence studies from six of the eight Initiative countries. By the end of the meeting, the group had reached consensus on several key issues, and though there were still some pending disagreements on methodology, CDC took responsibility for writing the group's decisions into the draft protocol, which they would then distribute for comment. RPM Plus also agreed to work with 2 other colleagues from PAHO on a rapid assessment of prescribing quality to complement the adherence studies.

RPM Plus continued to work with Suriname, Guyana, Ecuador and Colombia to define and address their technical assistance needs.

- Suriname completed its preliminary analysis of the PMM data and was invited to present the results, as well as share their overall experience conducting the assessment, at a regional AMI workshop on PMM assessments that RPM Plus is planning for July (see below).
- Guyana requested RPM Plus' assistance with a Community PMM assessment in mining communities as well as with the supply chain management issues expected to arise during the transfer of pharmaceutical management responsibilities from the national malaria program to the integrated MMU system. Due to limited time and resources, RPM Plus could not provide full assistance for both projects; thus, Guyana prioritized the supply chain management activity. An initial meetings with the partners was held in June and a follow-up visit to identify needs was planned for August.
- Colombia, in discussion with RPM Plus and the AMI regional coordinator, decided to postpone their PMM assessment until after RPM Plus' workshop on the same subject scheduled for July in Colombia. Colombia was selected as the host country to ensure participation of high-up authorities who are not permitted to travel to other countries and to motivate the study team to move forward with the protocol and other arrangements
- Ecuador was forced to postpone their PMM assessment indefinitely due to political instability and significant changes within the government, including the Ministry of Health. RPM Plus has agreed to

RPM Plus is planning a regional workshop on using the PMM assessment manual in response to the AMI countries' increasing interest in the tool and the increasing demand for RPM Plus' assistance with such assessments. Although the activity was not included in the FY04 work plan or budget, adequate funding has been leveraged from other sources and portfolios and reallocated from other AMI activities to cover the cost of developing the materials, renting the space and equipment and facilitating the 4-day workshop. The workshop is scheduled to take place in Bogota, Colombia, July 19-22. The development of course materials was initiated during the current reporting period.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN HEALTH SECTOR REFORM

Overview

The Latin America and Caribbean Region Health Sector Reform Initiative (LAC HSRI) started in 1997 with support from USAID Regional Bureau for LAC (LAC/RSD). Its original purpose was to provide regional support to national health sector reform processes in Latin America and the Caribbean. During the following years, the overall intent of the Initiative has been to improve the capacity in both the public and private sectors of the Initiative's target countries to address and implement health reforms, as well as to strengthen health system performance. The Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program of Management Sciences for Health was invited to participate in the LAC HSR Initiative starting in October 2002.

One of the areas that may be affected by the process of health reform is the pharmaceutical supply system; however, the consequences have not been systematically studied. RPM Plus proposed to work in the development of a conceptual framework to assess the positive and negative effects of the processes of HSR on the pharmaceutical supply system in countries undergoing such reforms. The final objective is to increase the capacity of HSR officers and planners to assess these effects.

With USAID Regional Bureau for LAC (LAC/RSD) funds from FY03 (USD 142,000) RPM Plus completed the following activities:

- Revised the conceptual framework on *Health Sector Reform and its Effects on Drug Supply Management*, and the methodology for country rapid assessments based on new literature about the performance improvement in health sector reforms.

- Three RPM Plus consultants participated in the Regional Forum "A New Agenda for Health Sector Reform: Strengthening the Public Health Essential Functions". It was held in Antigua, Guatemala, from July 19 – 23, with the participation of 200 delegates form 11 countries. During the plenary session RPM Plus presented "A Conceptual Framework for the Analysis of the Public Sector Pharmaceutical Supply System". The use of the conceptual framework was illustrated by a case study based on the information of a LAC country. For the first July 20th "Exchange of Knowledge and Experiences" workshops, RPM Plus prepared three case studies that were analyzed and discussed by 26 participants. For the July 21st workshop RPM Plus presented "the use of indicators in pharmaceutical management assessments". The exposition was followed by the presentation of the instruments developed by RPM Plus to study the effects of HSR on pharmaceutical supply management.

  Regarding the logistics of the forum, RPM Plus was financially responsible for the sponsorship and travel arrangements of 5 participants from Dominican Republic and 5 participants from El Salvador.

- On October 4 – 11, RPM Plus conducted a study of the effects of HSR in the Guatemalan pharmaceutical supply system. The methodology included the revision of literature and interviews to key informants that participated in the HSR reform process and in two major pharmaceutical management initiatives: the use of bulk procurement to reduce the price of pharmaceuticals, and the implementation of non-for-profit drugstores in remote rural areas that benefited from the public bulk procurement mechanism. Available data suggests that bulk procurement has reduced prices and improved availability to medicines in public facilities, and that non-for profit drugstores have improved geographical access in remote communities.

Major Activities this Quarter

The elaboration of the final reports on the effects of HSR on pharmaceutical management in Ecuador en Guatemala, expected by mid June, was delayed because of a medical strike and political instability (including the removal of some MoH authorities) in Ecuador, and because the USAID Mission in Guatemala requested for a revision of the first draft of the document. Since the elaboration of the final version of the conceptual framework depended on both case studies (Ecuador en Guatemala), it was delayed, as well. The three final products (the two case studies and the conceptual framework) have been finalized and will be sent to USAID and to the LAC HSRI countries before the end of July, 2005.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN SOUTH AMERICAN INFECTIOUS DISEASE INITIATIVE (SAIDI)

Overview

Health gains obtained by priority programs including tuberculosis, malaria, acute respiratory infections, sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS, are increasingly threatened by antimicrobial resistance (AMR). AMR develops over time and is exacerbated by an increased exposure of the microorganisms associated with infectious diseases to antimicrobial medicines, and the subsequent development of survival mechanisms within these microorganisms. There are many factors that contribute to the development of AMR, but one of the major contributors from a public health perspective is the unnecessary use of antimicrobials for common conditions and/or, the use of inappropriate doses of the drugs in cases when they are required. Health systems contribute to this situation by lacking the proper legal frameworks, regulations and guidelines for the use of antimicrobials, and by implementing poor managerial mechanisms for proper selection, procurement, distribution and use of these valuable medicines. Physicians, pharmacists and drug vendors contribute to the unnecessary use of these drugs by prescribing and selling inappropriate treatments. Patients experienced with the benefits of antimicrobials tend to self-medicate, even when they may have access to formal health care services. The implication is that new strategies and more resources for second line drugs may be needed in the near future for these highly prevalent diseases as conventional treatments fail.

In response to this growing challenge, the USAID Bureau for the Latin America and Caribbean Region (USAID/LAC/SD) has proposed a sub regional strategy for the Andean countries and Paraguay, called the South American Infectious Disease Initiative or SAIDI. The general objective of this initiative is to contain the emergence and spread of AMR by improving the availability and the use of good quality antimicrobials. Thus, the central focus of SAIDI is rational use of antimicrobials and AMR control.

Without undermining existing efforts in AMR surveillance and control, SAIDI involves creating a new set of activities that focus on the community through a multisector, multifaceted, and multilevel approach. Under this approach, the work is expected to be inter-disciplinary, holistic, approaching problems as systems and not in isolation, seeking balance and long-term maintenance of structures and functions and recognizing and taking advantage of the interaction among stakeholders.

In the context of this holistic and interdisciplinary approach, USAID has gathered partner organizations already working on rational drug use and AMR-related activities with the expectation that their cumulative technical expertise in identifying the major determinants of inappropriate antimicrobial use, exploring underlying causes for these determinants, and documenting what is already known in each country, will help national stakeholders to find local approaches to contain AMR, tailored to meet each country's specific needs. The international partners contributing to SAIDI activities are the Rational Pharmaceutical Management Program (RPM Plus) of Management Sciences for Health, the Alliance for Prudent Use of Antibiotics (APUA), from the US Pharmacopeia Drug Quality and

Information Program (DQI/USP), Links Media, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Infectious Disease Division of the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO). This initiative is managed through the USAID mission in Lima, Peru.

Major Activities this Quarter

- SAIDI partners conducted a pre-assessment visit to Bolivia May 9 – 13. During the assessment visit, partners met with national stakeholders to determine their interest in participating in the initiative and to ask for their opinions and suggestions as to the possible contributing factors to AMR in Bolivia and the intervention strategies that could be used to address these issues.
- RPM Plus and SAIDI partners USP and PAHO began assessment activities in Paraguay, June 13 – 23. RPM Plus in collaboration with national partners, trained 10 pharmacy students for data collection in a study of the use of antibiotics in health facilities in Asuncion. RPM Plus also worked with coordinators and study teams from 5 hospitals in Asuncion to collect data on the use of antibiotics in hospitals. Data collection will finish in July.
- RPM Plus met with SAIDI national partners in Peru to discuss what activities had been completed thus far and to develop a work plan for the next quarter.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN - TUBERCULOSIS

Overview

Tuberculosis continues to be a major public health problem in Latin America and the Caribbean due to poor access to effective high quality TB drugs, counterproductive financial priorities practiced by some national health systems, and inappropriate treatment decisions. In addition, poor access to vital TB drugs is often linked to weak pharmaceutical systems with insufficient properly trained human resources, resulting in ineffective drug management practices.

The establishment of global initiatives such as the Stop TB Partnership's TB Global Drug Facility (GDF) and the Green Light Committee (GLC), and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (GFATM), may result in increase availability of quality medicines and pharmaceuticals for TB programs around the world. However, this increase in resources creates a challenge for countries to establish the managerial skills necessary to ensure that these quality medicines and pharmaceuticals are used in an efficient manner. The challenges of developing TB program capacity and of providing tools and information resources to manage these pharmaceuticals and financial resources are at the core of RPM Plus technical assistance to the field.

With funds from FY02, USAID LAC assigned RPM Plus $ 60,000 to improve training modules already developed by RPM Plus for procurement of TB drugs, for the adaptation and translation of these materials into Spanish and for sponsoring the participation of 24 TB programs managers from nine Latin American and Caribbean countries to the regional course on Pharmaceutical Management for TB Programs held in Honduras in October 2003.

USAID LAC Bureau Funds from FY03 ($ 250,000) were used to conduct a course requested by the Green Light Committee for LAC on management of drugs for multidrug resistance TB (MDRTB), to conduct a meeting on access of indigenous communities to TB treatment, to conduct an exploratory survey of incentives currently being used by some TB programs in the region and a meeting to share experience with use and evaluation of incentives within TB control, and to provide technical assistance to those countries that identified a particular aspect of pharmaceutical management that needed improvement .

Materials for the course on Pharmaceutical Management of Medicines for Multidrug Resistant TB were produced with funds from the USAID Bureau for Global Health –BGH. Translation and adaptation of the training modules were done with funds from LAC/RSD and the course was conducted in Mexico DF on May 2004. Twenty managers of national TB programs were sponsored with these funds to participate in the course.

In the case of exploring the type of incentives used by TB programs in the region, RPM Plus collected information through an E-Mail survey, on the specifics of incentives and enablers in LAC countries and organized a meeting immediately after the Stop TB meeting (Tegucigalpa, Honduras, May 6-7, 2004) to present the results of this survey, and discuss

methodological approaches to evaluate the impact of incentives and enablers strategies on TB program performance. Funds were also used to sponsor the attendance of two Bolivian professionals to the "Promoting Rational Drug Use in the Community" course in Nicaragua (August 16 – 27, 2004). Follow up to the participants on previous meetings has been provided via E-Mail and telephone.

Approximately $ 48,000.00 from FY03 remaining funds were used for the organization of the workshop on access of indigenous communities to TB Pharmaceuticals that took place in Panama City, October 13-15, 2004. During the meeting indigenous leaders and TB Program directors (or representatives) analyzed the current epidemiological situation of TB in these communities, the cultural, geographical and financial barriers that limit access to an effective diagnosis and treatment, and discussed culturally acceptable strategies to improve DOTS expansion within these communities.

Remaining funds (approximately $30,000.00) were used to provide technical assistance to the Ecuador NTP to determine local capacity to scale up the DOTS strategy to the rest of country within the next three years (as stated in the Global Fund Country proposal), and develop a sound strategy to treat MDR-TB. Two RPM Plus senior associates visited Quito, Guayaquil, and two provinces near the country capital from October 18 – 22. The team identified weaknesses in the pharmaceutical supply system, but determined that strengthening of NTP managerial team with more staff and training was a requirement to implement long lasting changes in pharmaceutical supply and in any other management areas.

Remaining funds (US$ 6,000.00) were used for the participation of RPM Plus in the APHA annual conference (Washington DC, November 8, 2004), presenting "Incentives and Enablers to Improve the Performance of Tuberculosis Control Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)", within the session "Addressing the Global Problems of AIDS, TB and Malaria."

For FY04 (October 2004- September 2005) USAID LAC Bureau assigned RPM Plus $ 95,000.00 for the adaptation and translation to Spanish of TB Pharmaceutical Management Guidelines, that are being developed with USAID Bureau for Global Health –BGH- funds. This funding is also expected to cover technical assistance to follow up on specific country requirements derived from the courses and workshops that RPM Plus organized during the previous two years, and for the dissemination of meeting results in international symposia.

Major Activities this Quarter

The first draft of the English version of the TB Pharmaceutical Management Guidelines was finished by the end of April 2005. This version was translated to Spanish during June 2005. The Spanish version is now in the review, editing and formatting phase. This first draft will be pilot tested and validated with a selected group of LAC TB managers. The publication should then be ready for reproduction and dissemination around October 2005.

There were no specific country requirements during this quarter that could have translated into technical assistance from RPM Plus. The Regional Stop TB meeting, originally planned for May 16-18, could have been an opportunity to contact TB coordinators and plan follow up activities, but it was postponed to August 23- 25, 2005. RPM Plus will participate in this meeting to follow up on the improvements on pharmaceutical management and challenges that may require RPM Plus technical assistance.

RPM Plus has been invited to two events that will provide additional opportunities to coordinate follow up activities with selected LAC countries:

a. The Strategic Fund Meeting, Honduras July 11 -14: During this meeting the TB Program in Dominican Republic (DR) will present their experience in the transition to Fixed Dose Combinations and the purchase or TB medicines through the Global Drug Facility. This is an activity that RPM Plus has been supporting in the DR, and may trigger the interest of other TB programs in the region. Using USAID LAC Bureau resources, David Lee, Deputy Director CPM, will attend the meeting.
b. RPM Plus has been invited to the First Session of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional TB Program. This meeting will be carried out at PAHO Headquarters in Washington, D.C. on 28-29 July. This will be a good opportunity to identify activities that RPM Plus can carry-out as a joint venture with PAHO.

MALARIA ACTION COALITION

Overview

Malaria continues to place a heavy burden on the world's poorest countries. Every year there are between 300 million and 500 million new cases of malaria infection that lead to over one million deaths, of which 75 percent occur in African children under five years of age.[1] Access to early and effective therapies for appropriate case management of malaria and the effective provision of intermittent preventive therapy (IPT) to women during pregnancy are fundamental to achieving substantial reductions in mortality and morbidity due to malaria. Effective case management for malaria requires that the populations at risk seek, obtain, and use effective antimalarials appropriately. This is dependant on the accessibility of high quality, effective pharmaceuticals in the appropriate formulations and amounts and the appropriate use of these pharmaceuticals according to a correct regimen.

Given these priorities USAID has established the Malaria Action Coalition (MAC) to support the World Health Organization's Roll Back Malaria (RBM) Initiative. The MAC is a partnership between; The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the MSH/Rational Pharmaceutical Management-Plus Program, the JHPIEGO/MNH Program, and the World Health Organization (both Geneva and AFRO offices). The Malaria Action Coalition functions as an integral part of the RBM partnership for Africa through a focused, regional effort providing technical and program assistance to national governments to establish an ongoing process to review, revise and implement policies and practices promoting effective malaria treatment and malaria in pregnancy interventions.

Given the current context of malaria in Africa, the Malaria Action Coalition (MAC)[2] has undergone a strategic reorientation, now placing with a greater focus on technical assistance for implementation in order to effectively respond to these changes. Two streams of funding have been made available through the MAC; "core" funds through the USAID SO5 Bureau of Global Health and Mission funds from the various USAID Country Missions. The RPM Plus Malaria MAC portfolio has been developed as a result of a joint work plan among the MAC partners.

Major activities this quarter

- RPM Plus traveled to Abuja, Nigeria, to provide technical assistance to capacity building in pharmaceutical management at the state and local government area (LGA) level (stores & health facilities) in preparation for ACT implementation in the selected states. This included finalizing the draft Trainer of Trainers (TOT) stores management package, facilitating a workshop for key stakeholders in the Roll Back Malaria (RBM) and pharmaceutical sectors to adapt the draft TOT stores

[1] R. W. Snow, M. Craig, U. Deichmann, K. Marsh. 1999. Estimating mortality, morbidity and disability due to malaria among Africa's non-pregnant population. *Bull World Health Organ.* **77**(8): 617–8.
[2] The MAC is a partnership among; The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the MSH/Rational Pharmaceutical Management-Plus Program, the JHPIEGO/ACCESS Program, and the World Health Organization (both Geneva and AFRO offices)

management package to the Nigerian context. RPM Plus also worked with the FMOH/RBM unit to identify trainers from the federal and state level to be trained in the TOT workshop and plan for the TOT workshop at the federal level (to be facilitated by the RPM Plus consultant) and develop a plan for cascade training at the state and local government area level.

- Pharmaceutical management for malaria training materials revised based on results of field-testing done in Peru. Planning for regional training workshops in E. & Southern Africa and W. Africa has begun.
- Developed assessment proposal to submit to the Malawi MOH to assess community drug management.
- Finalized and disseminated the rapid assessment of antimalarial drug availability and use in Nigeria report.
- Continued to provide support to GFATM recipient countries on PSM plan development and to resolve bottlenecks preventing phase II grant approval.
- In May 2005, RPM Plus traveled to Madagascar to provide technical assistance to the MOH to develop an operational plan for the change of the first-line treatment for malaria from Chloroquine to an Artesunate based Combination Treatment. The purpose of this trip was to provide guidance to implementers at all levels on the actions that need to be taken when changing the national policy for the first-line treatment for malaria to an ACT and to identify other areas in which technical assistance might be required from RPM Plus and other partners. A draft implementation plan was developed at the end of this trip. Products: Trip Report. Draft implementation Plan
- Participated in the fifth WARN partner planning meeting, providing technical input on pharmaceutical management issues for malaria RPM Plus did a presentation on the steps of ACT implementation, based on the Implementation Guide developed by RPM Plus. In addition, RPM Plus informed the group of the plans to undertake short-term missions to assess the needs for technical assistance in drug management in two West African countries, Benin and Senegal and the coming regional workshop on quantification.
- Continued development of a malaria chapter for the Quantimed tool that RPM Plus created to assist countries in quantifying their pharmaceutical needs. The malaria chapter focuses specifically on quantification of antimalarials and related issues.
- Continued planning training course in antimalarial quantification to be held in West as well as East and Southern Africa. Development of course material and RPM Plus internal review of material.
- To support GFATM recipient countries in ACT implementation, RPM Plus, in collaboratin with CDC (Ethiopia only), and WHO/AFRO, participated in MAC case management scoping visits in Benin, Ethiopia, Burundi, and Senegal. Jointly with RBM country partners and in coordination with the subregional networks (Eastern Africa RBM Network—EARN, Western Africa RBM Network—WARN), the assessment teams identified gaps in ACT implementation and related technical assistance needs. RPM Plus agreed with partners on the provision of pharmaceutical management technical assistance for ACT implementation and programmed the related activities with the 2006 MAC core funds (FY 2005 funds).

- RPM Plus provided technical assistance focused on pharmaceutical management to Benin, Ghana, and Kenya for the malaria components of their applications to the GFATM.
- RPM Plus/MAC worked with DR Congo MOH/PNLP to provide technical support in the antimalarial drug policy change to ACT including the malaria experts meeting and the national consensus meeting for drug policy change.
- RPM plus worked with Kinshasa School of Public Health to provide support and technical assistance to PNLP in the development of technical protocol for a baseline survey (still ongoing) with support from GFATM, and in drug efficacy monitoring study (also ongoing in two sites).
- RPM Plus/MAC provided technical support to the DR Congo MOH/PNLP to develop an ACT implementation plan. As part of these efforts RPM Plus provided support and expertise for the revision of the Standard Treatment Guidelines in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF, CDC, the Medical and Pharmaceutical Faculties from Kinshasa University and representatives of implementing partners in public and private sectors.
- RPM Plus/MAC has provided technical assistance in DR Congo to SANRU and CRS projects in the development of standardized drug management procedures, training modules and selected drug management tools to be utilized at central and intermediary levels for TOT and at peripheral levels in training Health Zone Coordinators, Health Center and Hospital Drug Managers. The training process started April 2005 in collaboration with the PNLP. A TOT for 11 Central supervisors (including MOH, SANRU project, CRS project) and 16 provincial pharmaceutical depots managers (SANRU and CRS project) was held April 26th - 30. RPM Plus/MAC also supported SANRU and CRS project to train a total of 814 health center and hospital drug managers in 42 Health Zones.
- RPM Plus/MAC also provided support and expertise to the DR Congo Ministry of Health/PNLP to develop their malaria ACT procurement plan, and to the MOH division in charge of drug regulation to revise the National Essential Dug List (NEDL) with introduction of ACT.
- In conjunction with the Ghana Food and Drugs Board (FDB), RPM Plus/MAC disseminated the quality aspect of the previously conducted assessment of the availability and quality of antimalarial drugs in the public and private sectors at the SEAM conference in June, 2005.
- RPM Plus/MAC provided support to the re-classification of ACTs as well as the phasing out of chloroquine and limiting use of SP and artesunate monotherapies in Ghana.
- Between May and July 2005, RPM Plus provided support to the Kenya Division of Malaria Control in the organization and facilitation of two workshops (Mombasa and Nairobi) where stakeholders developed and finalized the national Standard Treatment Guidelines for Malaria. The STGs have been finalized and edited.
- Transition Plan development intensified due to official announcement of new ACT policy by the Director of Medical Services, Kenya. Plan is currently undergoing review by stakeholders including WHO Kenya country office, WHO Geneva, Members of the Drug Policy Technical Working Group. The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to Kenya on the actions that need to be taken to implement the new policy. It addresses operational and technical considerations for

both the public and private sectors, and is currently being used as a planning tool to identify technical assistance and resource needs in preparation for policy implementation in January 2006.

Although part of the scope of work for RPM Plus was to develop a procurement plan for ACTs in Mali, there was an urgent need to develop a procurement and supply management plan for the Mali GFATM Round 1 grant. The procurement plan initially developed for the first round was rejected due to insufficient information. The GFATM evaluation in October 2004 identified several issues which needed to be addressed immediately including plans for consumption of phase I of the R1 grant. Based on this, RPM Plus/MAC assisted the NMCP to develop a Procurement and Supply Management plan to submit to the GFATM including carrying out a quantification exercise for ACTs using estimates of malaria incidence in one health district.

REDSO/HIV

Overview

The USAID Regional Economic Development Services Office (REDSO) for East, Central and Southern Africa (ECSA) and its partners recognize that a well-functioning pharmaceutical and commodity management system, which ensures availability and equity of access to drugs, vaccines, contraceptives, and medical supplies, is crucial for the provision of high-quality health services. Governments and donors know that better health outcomes in the ECSA region depend on the cost-effective management of the limited resources available for pharmaceuticals and other public health supplies. REDSO supports RPM-PLUS/Regional Logistics Initiative (RLI) which is based in Nairobi, Kenya to provide technical assistance and resources in drug management and logistics for the public health drug supply, including selection, quantification, procurement, distribution and logistics systems management, rational drug use, and drug policy development for the region. In order to implement pharmaceutical management strengthening activities within the region RPM Plus/RLI operationalized the Regional Pharmaceutical Forum (RPF), with REDSO HIV/AIDS Program funding during FY03. The activities of the RPF are implemented by its four Technical Working Groups (TWGs), namely, Policy, Legal Framework and Management Support; Procurement and Distribution Systems; Promoting Rational Drug Use; and HIV/AIDS TWGs. The HIV/AIDS TWG is funded by REDSO SO 8.

Technical Objectives
In this program year, RPM Plus activities focuses on the following 4 key objectives
1. Support the provision of strategic information on the Northern Transit Transport Corridor that will inform the provision of HIV/AIDS prevention and care services.
2. Support the strengthening of HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria pharmaceutical management systems in the ECSA region through the provision of strategic information, development of regional standard treatment guidelines and formulary and the development of a pre-service commodity management curriculum for training institutions.
3. Support the HIV/AIDS TWG in the establishment of an information mechanism on HIV/AIDS pharmaceutical procurement, therapeutics and drug use
4. Support the provision of strategic information on the pharmaceutical aspects of Pediatric ART programs to inform a Pediatric Cohort Study. This study is geared to define the prognosis of HIV-1 children on HAART at selected sites in sub-Sahara Africa.

Major activities this quarter

In collaboration with RPF's HIV/AIDS TWG, RPM Plus organized and conducted a workshop to develop a generic pre-service curriculum and training materials in health commodity management in support of Antiretroviral therapy(ART) for incorporation into pre-service curricula of health training institutions and universities in ECSA member states. In this workshop, draft generic pharmaceutical management pre-service curriculum and training materials in support of ART were developed for field testing, a time-table for testing drawn, a training schedule proposed, and steps for refining the draft prior to testing set. Consultants were contracted by RPM Plus to commence on the following activities:

1.) Conduct a meta-analysis of standard treatment guidelines (STGs) for the management of HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis from 14 countries in the region. This information was further used to develop recommendations for harmonized STGs to be tabled before the RPF.

2) Review the existing formularies and WHO formulary guidelines and draft a regional formulary as a companion to the STGs.

3) Conduct a planning workshop for the development of 3 country site plans for strengthening activities in ART pharmaceutical management systems to enable the sites serve as regional "Learning Sites" in the establishment and maintenance of ART in the region. The sites identified included: Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center (KCMC), Moshi, Tanzania; Ndola Regional Hospital, Ndola, Zambia and the Coast Provincial General Hospital (CPGH), Mombasa, Kenya. The planned strengthening activities included: development and training on standard operating procedures (SOPs), training on Rational drug use, installation and training on use of the ART dispensing tool in support of MIS, infrastructure renovation to improve confidentiality in medication use counseling, and development of tools for internal performance monitoring at point of use.

REDSO/RLI

Overview

The USAID Regional Economic Development Services Office (REDSO) for Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) and its partners, Governments and donors recognize that a well-functioning commodity management and logistics system, which ensures availability, and equity of access to medicines, vaccines, contraceptives, and medical supplies, is crucial for the provision of high-quality health and pharmaceutical services.

Since 2000, USAID/REDSO and the Bureau for Africa, Office of Sustainable Development (AFR/SD/HRD) have funded the Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) program to support their strategic objectives (SO) in health. In particular, SO7 – "Enhanced regional capacity to improve health systems in the ECSA Region" has been supported to strengthen pharmaceutical management systems in Eastern, Central and Southern African (ECSA) countries. RPM Plus has provided technical assistance to regional organizations, disseminated state of the art assessment tools, shared better practices and strategic information on drug management and logistics in the ECSA region. Specifically, interventions included institutional and human capacity building and direct technical assistance in selection, quantification, and procurement of public health supplies. The technical assistance and support has been channeled through the Regional Logistics Initiative (RLI), a unit established by REDSO's PHN office, and based in Nairobi, Kenya. The RLI's, mandate is to provide technical resources in various aspects of health commodity management systems including pharmaceutical policy development and systems management.

Under this work plan, some of these activities will continue, e.g. in support of the Regional Pharmaceutical Forum and malaria activities. These will be implemented in synergy with other RPM Plus regional activities conceptualized under different Strategic Objectives such as SO4 (HIV/AIDS), SO5 (AMR / ID), and MAC work plans. Also, RPM Plus will continue its ongoing collaboration with USAID funded organizations such as the ECSA Health Community (formerly Commonwealth Regional Community Health Secretariat and the Regional Centre for the Quality of Health Care based at Makerere University, Uganda.

Major activities this quarter

- Completed the development of a generic Curriculum for Pharmaceutical Management in the Decentralized Systems. The Curriculum is pending technical review/editing then it will be ready for publishing.
- Engaged and supervised a consultant to analyze the data collected from the application of the Performance Assessment Tool for Drug Policy in eight countries of ECSA region. A presentation on the findings will be made to the DJCC in July, 2005 and further disseminated in other health fora in the region.
- Completed development of the FY 05 workplan in line with REDSO's requirements and format and presented it to REDSO at the Annual Partners' Meeting for consideration for funding.

- Initiated plans and negotiations with ECSA-HC for the holding of a RPF meeting in the last quarter of FY 04.

Participated in the annual REDSO Partners meeting held in Mombasa Kenya and whose theme was “Best Practices: Scaling up for Impact”.

WEST AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAM

Overview

Countries in the West Africa region share common challenges – poverty, poor health and social services, gender inequality and civil strife. There is also a high prevalence of serious communicable diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis. Although HIV/AIDS is not as highly prevalent as in the East and Southern Africa region, the risk of explosion of the epidemic is real. While some countries such as Senegal still have relatively low (0.4-1.7%) levels of HIV prevalence, there are at least four countries in the region which can be described as having a generalized HIV epidemic (prevalence rates higher than 5%). These include Cote d'Ivoire (4.9-10 %), Cameroon (4.4-9.8%), Burkina Faso (2.7 – 6.5 %), and Togo (2.7-6.4%). Nigeria the most populated African country has an estimated HIV prevalence rate of 3.6 – 8%, translating to about three million adults living with HIV, following South Africa and India. Civil strife further undermines the already poor national health services. High mobility contributes to more casual and commercial sexual relationships, thus increasing the risk of HIV transmission. There is a growing understanding that common problems and needs shared across West Africa's porous borders, exacerbated by the scarcity of resources to effectively respond, demand a regional response.

USAID is one of the major donors in the West Africa region. In addition to country support through bilateral missions, USAID has supported regional level HIV/AIDS projects. The Family Health and AIDS (FHA) Project, ending in 2003, mostly focused efforts in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire and Togo. The current USAID/WARP Mission Project reflects a broader regional strategy. Action for West Africa Region (AWARE) composed of (AWARE)-HIV/AIDS and (AWARE) - RH is scheduled to run from 2003 to 2008 in all 15 ECOWAS countries, as well as Cameroon, Mauritania and Chad. It is the primary mechanism for implementation of this strategy. In addition to the broadened geographic reach, the AWARE-HIV/AIDS Project will focus on strengthening regional leadership through capacity development, systems strengthening, building partnerships, and leveraging funding from other sources in the region.

As the countries of the region embark on HIV/AIDS treatment and care programs constraints related to management of HIV/AIDS drugs and other commodities are encountered. This is especially true for the antiretroviral drugs (ARVs). Challenges remain in pharmaceutical management for drugs to treat and manage opportunistic infections (OIs), supplies for supporting laboratory functions such as rapid test kits, commodities required for confirmatory testing and quality control, reagents and equipment needed for managing HIV/AIDS patients, including monitoring the need for treatment with ARVs and the therapeutic process of those so treated. Key among these constraints are the selection, quantification, procurement and use of the drugs, touching on every aspect of the drug management cycle. Policy, legal, taxation and regulatory issues vary across the region, posing additional challenges, as has been seen in other countries and regions. It is with this background that the following proposal, intended to raise awareness and experience sharing in pharmaceutical management for HIV/AIDS in the West African region is made.

RPM Plus will provide technical assistance to the AWARE HIV project and its partner West African Health Organization(WAHO) to implement the activities outlined below. These activities contribute to the achievement of the USAID WARP Strategic Objective 5 (SO5): Increased adoption of sustainable FP/RH, STI/HIV/AIDS, and child survival policies and approaches in West Africa**.** The activities to which RPM Plus will provide technical assistance all fall under Intermediate Result 5.4: Health sector reform models developed and disseminated region wide and sub-intermediate result 5.4.3: Countries in the West African region develop national commodity security plans**.**

Major activities this quarter

RPM Plus, at the request of USAID, was among the presenting organizations in the panel discussions on technical assistance to the Global Fund and procurement and supply management that took place in Dakar Senegal in June 2005. Initial contacts with CCMs, PRs, Fund Portfolio Managers (FPMs) from Geneva and Local Fund Agents (LFAs) in Francophone countries, as well as international partners which also support GFATM implementation, were made to facilitate subsequent TA efforts with specific countries or groups of countries.

Preparatory work was initiated for the planned November 2005 PSM workshop which will be led by RPM Plus.

NARRATIVES - COUNTRY PROGRAMS

BENIN

Overview

Following the analysis of the logistical system carried out by one of USAID Field support "FPLM/DELIVER" in 2000, USAID's major bilateral Activity, PROSAF, which is based in Borgou/Alibori region organized a consensus workshop at regional level regarding the findings of this analysis. At this workshop, the implementation of regional warehouse for essential drugs was identified as key to strengthen the logistics system and reduce stock-outs at the health centers. PROSAF organized a technical and financial feasibility study regarding the establishment of the country's first regional drug depot serving the regions of the Borgou/Alibori in 2001. This study was conducted with the assistance of all partners, including the health regional directorate of Borgou/Alibori (DDS). The depot (warehouse) was built by French cooperation and the facility was made operational with equipment and capacity strengthening provided by USAID/Benin and was inaugurated in December 2002. In September 2003, USAID/Benin has provided a stock of medicine for approximately $400,000. An analysis of the management of the regional warehouse indicates that the system is still centralized and all decisions are made in Cotonou by the CAME. This situation is not appropriate to satisfy the needs of the health system and represents a risk, not only the provision of quality services delivery, but also for the sustainability of the medicine system. As a result, USAID Benin has requested RPM Plus to undertake a study to assist the Ministry of Health assess current conditions and offer recommendations to effectively decentralize the management of the medicines system in Borgou/Alibori. The objective of this study is to provide USAID/Benin and the MOH with a plan for the further development of the public pharmaceutical supply system in Benin. Specifically: • Determine the current effectiveness and efficiency of the distribution system • Identify opportunities for improvements in effectiveness and efficiency • Assess options for further decentralization based on the above

Major activities this quarter

**RPM plus drafted a SOW for the Team Leader and a local consultant to complete the study. After receiving a list of potential consultants from USAID, RPM selected anglade MALAN KLA as Team Leader. Consequently, he selected Alphonse AKMAPOLI to work as local consultant assisting with the study. **Draft Report of findings was submitted to RPM Plus June 24, 2005. ** Report was reviewed by RPM Plus

BRAZIL

Overview

In order to carryout decentralization of the MDR-TB management information system (MIS) for better TB control, RPM Plus has hired local experts and has begun working with local counterparts to develop individual sub-activities.

During FY04 RPM Plus provided assistance to the Helio Fraga TB Center for support of DOTS and MDR-TB activities through the following technical objectives:

1. **Improve the appropriate use of TB drug regimens:** The WHO has established targets for high burden countries of detecting at least 70% of cases and successfully treating at least 85% of those detected in order to break the transmission of TB in the countries. Under this objective RPM Plus will provide technical assistance to the Helio Fraga TB Center for evaluating appropriateness of current drug regimens and for proposing new regimens consisting of fixed dose combination (FDC) products where two, three or four drug products are contained within a single tablet.

2. **Strengthen the national TB control program:** There is concern by TB Center and other professionals in the Brazil TB program that drug quality problems exist. An evaluation of the drug quality program will help identify weak areas and provide recommendations for interventions. RPM Plus is mobilizing the national quality institutes and the MOH pharmacy department to develop a sustainable plan for sampling and testing TB drugs.

Major Activities This Quarter

The local expert hired to provide technical assistance on the study for changing the retreatment scheme reviewed and formatted the sixth and final version of the study protocol. Additionally, an retreatment study action plan based on stakeholders input was revised, distributed and was reveiwed during a meeting with the stakeholders on April 20, 2005. A comparison between specifications of the chemical raw materials used by Farmanguinhos and Laqfex was elaborated in order to explain difficulties in dissolution tests revealed by the quality control program. First phase quality tests were performed at the INCQS laboratories where first and second phase sampling consisted of 24 samples representing 8 different drugs and 9 different producers of TB drugs. Twenty-four samples were analyzed of which 15 were approved and 9 found unsatisfactory. Of the 9 unsatisfactory samples, 5 had labeling non-conformities, 4 did not meet product quality standards although not of a safety or effectiveness nature. At the request of USAID Deputy Director in Brazil, RPM Plus informed on these official quality results which were conflicting with other rumored information. New facilities were established for the information system connecting the lab network for on-line consolidation of analytical results, thereby strengthen personnel in the laboratory network. RPM Plus facilitated a presentation on "Reaching TB Pharmaceutical Management Targets for Brazil," showing interim results of RPM Plus activities in the country.

CAMBODIA

Overview

According to the 2000 Cambodian Demographic and Health Survey (CDHS) infant mortality stands at 95 per cent per 1000 live births. Child mortality under the age of five is till 125/1000. These rates are the second highest in Southeast Asia. In addition to the malaria burden, diarrheal disease, acute respiratory infections and vaccine preventable disease are responsible for approximately 50% of deaths of children under five. The percentage of children under the age of five who are underweight is 45% and micronutrient deficiencies are common. The Cambodian Government has expressed concern over these indicators and began addressing them in its Health Sector Strategic Plan 2003-2007. The Global Survival Partnership, a group of donors and international organizations has elected to support assistance to assess child and neonatal morbidity and mortality in Cambodia.

Previous malaria surveys conducted by RPM plus in Cambodia indicate a lack of access to quality medicines and pharmaceutical services is a serious problem in rural and urban areas, and likely contributes to the high level of childhood morbidity and mortality. RPM and RPM Plus have developed several tools to conduct focused assessments of drug management in the public and private sectors as well as the household level. One such tool is the Community Drug Management for Childhood Illnesses (C-DMCI). In an effort to support the government of Cambodia health sector strategic plan for 2002-07, RPM Plus was asked to coordinate its drug management in childhood illnesses assessment with the overall child health assessment so that findings may help guide strategy development and appropriate interventions.

Objective 1: Enhance the capacity of governmental or NGO counterparts in Cambodia region to systematically identify and monitor community-level drug management for child health utilizing appropriate diagnostic tools.

Objective 2: Enhance the capacity of decision makers and service providers to design and apply appropriate interventions to improve availability and use of child health drugs in the public and private sectors.

Major activities this quarter

RPM Plus continued to provide TA to RACHA in completing the analysis of the C-DMCI data. Sections of the MS Access database used to record data from the C-DMCI survey were reworked and resubmitted to RACHA. In an effort to produce more meaningful results, RPM Plus requested that RACHA stratify the data to generate indicators by provider type. This analysis will better direct interventions to improve knowledge and dispensing practices of providers. RPM Plus is also providing TA to RACHA in reviewing data entries from the provider and household surveys and tracer drug list in the MS access database.

In May 2005, RPM Plus visited Cambodia and met with RACHA to follow up on the C-DMCI survey. During this visit, RACHA requested additional technical assistance to complete the data analysis and writing the report. RPM Plus requested a time frame from RACHA as to when RPM Plus may expect the final report, survey instruments and a full set of indicators. RACHA submitted a preliminary report of the survey results and RPM Plus continues to provide electronic feedback.

While in Phnom Penh, RPM Plus also met with USAID and counterparts from WHO, MediCAM and other key stakeholders to discuss issues of joint interest in child survival, malaria and the status of the development of the National Child Survival strategy.

Activities within work plan program year 5 have not yet begun. It is anticipated these activities will be implemented in quarter four.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Overview

In October 2003, RPM Plus conducted an assessment of the Pharmacie de Santé Publique (PSP-CI), the Central Medical Stores of Cote D'Ivoire as well as of the pharmacies in the public health facilities in order to investigate the drug management system capacity in support to the expansion of PMTCT and HIV/AIDS activities supported by the Presidential Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, in Côte d'Ivoire. The assessment revealed numerous gaps in drug management at central, health districts and institutional levels. Following the presentation of the assessment findings, RPM Plus received funds from the US Government to initiate activities to address the key issues that might impact the availability and access of HIV/AIDS commodities required for the delivery of services.

RPM Plus assisted PSP-CI in the identification of interventions for addressing gaps identified in drug management and reinforce the capabilities of drug managers at all levels of the health system. With RPM Plus assistance, PSP-CI elaborated a three-year workplan that focuses on structural reinforcement of the institution and on human resources development. This plan was disseminated among donors in the search of support to respond to weaknesses in the different areas of drug management. One of the top identified priorities was the training in drug management which so far has been very limited in CI for the past years.
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With PSP-CI agreement, RPM Plus has initially concentrated its interventions on human capacity development, targeting primarily ART centers that deliver HIV/AIDS services. To reach this goal, RPM Plus assisted PSP-CI in building a national core of trainers in drug management which in turn will have to develop and implement a training plan for pharmacists and drug managers at health districts and institutional level. In addition, RPM Plus is providing direct assistance to the PSP to improve its capacity for drug management operations including its information system.

Major activities this quarter

During this quarter, significant progress was made in the preparation of the drug management curriculum, but not enough to make it ready for the testing. The initial plan was that each group of trainers works separately to review every component of the materials for consistency, and then conduct a plenary session with all groups. Trainers from the health districts could not join the team in Abidjan. This constraint led to additional time to the Abidjan team, since the group had to carry regular management tasks at PSP-CI. Two additional topics were included in the material: Selection of drugs and National Drug Policy. The new plan now is to conduct the testing in mid July at the health district of Aboisso, targeting approximately 20 participants.

RPM Plus mobilized the ORION team to visit the PSP-CI to ascertain their needs from the new proposed software aimed at improving drug operations at PSP-CI. During the team's visit, PSP-CI requested from the ORION team the installation and development of the following modules:

a) Tender and Procurement; b) Inventory management; c) Sales and Distribution; d) Warehouse; e) Vehicles and Equipment; f) Financial Assets. The team solicited that a point of contact, specialist in computer operations, be identified or hired to support the implementation process. This staff member will participate in the training of ORION named users, and receive training for the routine maintenance of the software. In response, PSP-CI was able to communicate two resumes to RPM Plus for consideration. Sidibe Mohamed Hassane was selected jointly by PSP-CI and RPM Plus and scheduled to start his work in May. In addition, and upon the recommendation of the team, PSP-CI identified named users and assistants that will eventually receive training on each of the specific ORION modules.

With the PSP-CI team nominated, RPM Plus will be able to better identify the current flows and procedures, the internal structure of the organization and the current roles and responsibilities. This will allow the ORION team to make appropriate recommendations for the necessary adjustments that need to take place prior to the implementation of the software.

With the development of PEPFAR activities, the extension of HIV/AIDS services to additional accredited centers, and the large demand on PSP-CI to ensure the availability of ARV products, it was recommended that RPM Plus keeps on-site continuous technical assistance at PSP-CI. RPM Plus initiated the process of recruiting a Senior Program Associate as resident advisor. Following two requests for candidature placed in the local newspapers, a total of 34 resumes were received by RPM Plus. PSP-CI and RPM Plus will agree with the USG team on the pre-selected candidates to be interviewed.

Beside the training component, RPM Plus has been working with PSP-CI on different other areas aimed at improving drug management operations. Since the government made ART services more accessible by lowering the cost sharing fees to CFA 5,000 by quarter, ART centers were put under pressure to scale-up services. As a result, additional ART centers were designated and existing ones responded by accelerating the enrolment for new patients. As result, PSP-CI requested immediate TA for improving its capability to forecast needs for ARVs. RPM Plus was preparing a regional workshop on quantification in Namibia scheduled for July. Two PSP-CI staff were identified to attend the workshop so that they acquire skills in quantification and the use on the quantification tool “Quantimed” developed by RPM Plus.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Overview

In Latin America, Dominican Republic has one of the highest incidences of Tuberculosis (TB). A high drop-out rate contributes to a prevalence of multi-drug resistance for anti – TB drugs of 6.6% among new cases, one of the highest rates in the Americas.

The National TB Program (NTP) of the Dominican Republic (DR) is currently receiving support from USAID Mission in Santo Domingo to expand the implementation of the WHO-supported strategy Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS). Ensuring the supply and management of TB drugs and their use according to treatment regimens is one of the main pillars for the success of DOTS. With USAID funds, Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) is supporting the drug management component of DOTS in Dominican Republic.

On February 2003 RPM Plus conducted an assessment of the pharmaceutical management at the central level. This work showed the need for a more formal system of pharmaceutical supply management for the NTP and proposed the overall design of a coordinated system with the participation of all the offices and departments of the MOH involved in the selection, procurement, distribution and use of the pharmaceuticals for the NTP.

During September 2003, RPM plus provided technical assistance to the NTP in the design of a functional managerial structure with standard procedures to ensure prompt supply of quality essential pharmaceuticals. The report also included a proposal to implement a drug management information system, including instruments/forms and instructions to fill them. The proposal was accepted by national authorities and RPM Plus developed an operational manual for drug management system and the instruments designed were analyzed and validated on a workshop held on February 16-17, 2004. These instruments were going to be used in a pilot area to test their effectiveness in providing the information needed to guide decisions. Areas selected for the pilot test were health areas V and VIII and the pilot was implemented during the second semester of 2004.

With the input of NTP professionals, RPM Plus elaborated the final version of the manual of procedures, which included the responsibilities of the NTP staff and a revised version of the instruments. On June 1-9 three workshops were held in Santo Domingo to train the local personnel of health areas V and VIII on the application of the procedures and the use of the instruments. The pilot project started in both areas on June 14th 2004. Information for a baseline study was collected during the first week of the pilot project and a mid-term monitoring visit was organized by local NTP staff with the support of RPM Plus on the third week of August 2004.

At the end of FY03 (September 2004) there were be remaining fund for approximately US$ 55,000.00, that were used for the final evaluation of the pilot project of the drug management system (DMS) and the adjustment of the procedures and instruments (November – December 2004).

USAID Mission in Santo Domingo committed US$ 100,000.00 for FY04 to periodically monitor the pharmaceutical availability through rapid assessments; a training of trainers on the DMS, that will be the starting point to scale up the TB DMS to the rest of the health areas and provinces; a monitoring visit to assess the implementation of the DMS; the conversion of manual reporting forms to an electronic version of the DMS; and technical support and training for the implementation of Fixed Dose Combinations (FDC).

Major Activities this Quarter

RPM Plus presented the results of the pilot test during the national evaluation of the program (April 13 -15) and coordinated with national counterparts the scaling up of the TB Drug Management System (DMS) to the rest of the provinces. During that visit the RPM Plus work plan for FY04 was reviewed with USAID officials to address the TB situation in the country and the new priorities of the NTP. The revised version was approved by the USAID mission in Santo Domingo on May 2005. The main activities included in the revised work plan are:

- Implementation of the Drug Management Information System to assess the availability of TB medicines
- Pilot project for the introduction of FDC in areas V and VIII
- Strengthening of management capabilities to scale up the Drug Management Information System

Following this work plan, a visit to Dominican Republic was carried out from May 31st to June 10th. RPM Plus organized a rapid assessment to determine the availability of TB medicines, and provided technical assistance for the application to the GDF and for the elaboration of a comprehensive plan for the introduction of fixed dose combinations (FDC). The plan included the criteria for the selection of FDC, the estimation of the needs, the procurement mechanism through GDF and guidelines for the use of FDC.

The MoH has already sent the application to the GDF. If it is approved, RPM Plus will organize a training workshop for the TB staff in two pilot areas selected by the NTP. Tentatively the training has been scheduled for August 2005.

The workshop for the strengthening of management capabilities to scale up the Drug Management Information System is programmed for September 2005.

ETHIOPIA PEP 1.5

Overview

Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program/Management Sciences for Health (MSH) is collaborating with USAID/Ethiopia in the provision of technical assistance in drug and related commodities management and ARV procurement for President's Mother and Child HIV Prevention Initiative (PMTCT) and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (The Emergency Plan) in Ethiopia.

Under this effort, RPM Plus will assist in national, regional, district, and health facility-level capacity development for delivery of PMTCT/ART services and ensuring access to and rational use of basic PMTCT/ART products through various interventions including:

1. Strengthening human capacity
2. Strengthening overall supplies management system including procurement, storage and distribution.
3. Improving the physical infrastructure of drug and laboratory facilities to ensure security and quality of PMTCT and related products provided under the program in the target sites.
4. Establishing a monitoring and evaluation system to track selected supply indicators and develop and operationalize a management information system that will track stock level and expiry of PMTCT products at target sites
5. Undertaking other public-private initiatives that will improve access to quality pharmaceutical and laboratory services, promote patient education, improve rational use, prevent counterfeit product use, and establish drug & therapeutic committees at target facilities in support of PMTCT and related services
6. Technical support and coordination of PMTCT commodities and laboratory services through the establishment and operation of an in-country RPM Plus office.

Major activities this quarter

In this quarter, RPM Plus activities contributed to all the above objectives:

TA in Drug Supply Management

- Distribution have been made for additional 2175 ART clients to all of the 20 sites that makes a total of 6800 free ARV recipients when add up to the previously distributed 4620.
- In addition, distribution has been made for 430 new pediatric patients to all of the 20 ART sites and second line ARVs for 100 clients in Tilur Anbessa and Zewditu Hospitals.
- Weekly ART status update has been compiled for all the operating ART sites for the first time.
- Started receiving monthly ARV activity reports from some of the sites.
- Receipt of first order finalized and shipping documents started arriving for second order while part of outstanding stavudine.

- PMTCT:
- Site visits to most PMTCT Health facilities by Regional Pharmaceutical Associates were conducted.
- Assisted MOH to clear AXIOS donated test kits and NRV from Customs.

Infrastructure Improvement and Renovation

- Renovation and structures' upgrade (dispensing pharmacy, drugstore, counseling rooms, PMTCT, laboratory, incinerator, and dispensing booths) at Mekele Hospital, Mekele Army Hospital, Bahar dar Flede Hiwote Referral Hospital, Adit Helath Center, Woreta Health Center, Gonder Referral Hospital, Black Lion Referral Hospital, Zewditu Referral Hospital and Police Referral Hospital are completed and handed over to the facilities.
- For the following facilities, works are in progress and Committees have been set up to follow up on progress at Diredawa Dill Chora Referral Hospital, Harare Hiwote Fana Referral Hospital and Yergalem Referral Hospital.
- Planning visits made to Wolita Soodo, Jimma and Dessie to set up Committees and start up renovation.
- 27 rooms have been extended and built for solving problem of inadequate working space for dispensing pharmacy, drugstore, and counseling rooms in the above 9 facilities to improve status of ART, PMTCT, lab and VCT services.
- 9 main existing drugstores and 4 lab rooms have been renovated to improve status of the facilities.

TA in MIS and M&E

- Study and analysis of the current system of MSH's and Health Facilities work and development of a new electronic version to monitor and control ARV drugs.
- Technical support from MSH.
- Ensuring continuous printing and distribution of MIS formats to new and old ART sites.
- Reviewing reports coming from ART sites.
- Supporting RPAs on issues related to MIS.
- Providing technical assistance to ART sites on all aspects of drug supplies management on demand and/or through supportive supervision.
- Reviewing MIS training manual and SOP documents on a continuous basis according to recent changes.

Human Resources capacity/Training

- No training has been conducted during this period.

KYRGYZSTAN

Overview

Kyrgyz Republic was among the first in the region to demonstrate strong political commitment to DOTS strategy and make a transition to a nationwide DOTS expansion. While the transition to DOTS was largely supported, the NTP had experienced major setbacks in DOTS implementation, such as a number of interruptions in treatment in 2002-2003 due to shortages of TB drugs. These setbacks indicated a need for improvement in the pharmaceutical management practices in order to manage large amount of TB drugs supplied for the country. To address this need and the priorities identified during the visit of the RPM Plus Senior Program Associate in November 2002, RPM Plus carried out a workshop on TB Drug Policy in 2003, in collaboration with USP and Project HOPE..

Currently, the country is planning a large procurement of TB drugs through GFATM funding. This upcoming influx of TB medicines will be associated with a range of drug management issues, including quality of procured TB drugs. The quality of the TB drugs can affect treatment outcomes and have an ultimate impact on DOTS implementation. Therefore there is a need for introducing and institutionalizing international standards and methods of drug quality assurance to ensure proper and effective practices implemented through entire drug management cycle. To address this need, RPM Plus proposed a training on TB Drug Quality Assurance. The training will be provided for four countries in the region, including Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan, taking into account current needs in the region. Funding for the regional training will be leveraged from USAID Mission funding for the respective countries and USAID Mission regional/CAR funding.

Major activities during this quarter

The strategic objective of RPM Plus project in Kyrgyzstan is to increase the capacity of TB programs to design, apply, and monitor appropriate interventions to ensure an uninterrupted supply of quality TB commodities. RPM Plus Senior Program Associate visited Kyrgyzstan, to coordinate with main stakeholders regarding the upcoming regional training. During the meeting with RPM Plus, USAID, and the Director of the Department of Drug Supply in June 2005, the Deputy Minister of Health emphasized that the upcoming training in Drug Quality Assurance (DQA) is very important for Kyrgyzstan and, therefore, the MOH is committed to providing full support for this activity. Dr. Aaliyev, Deputy Minister of Health, and Dr. Kurmanov, Director, Department of Drug Supply, requested two Mini-labs: one for North of the country and another - for South (due to difficulties with traveling to the South). The procurement of another Minilab is beyond the limits of current funding, and RPM Plus suggested funding such procurement through other sources, such as GFATM funding. The Deputy Minister of Health also requested that the activity is expanded in the future to cover ARV medicines.

The Department of Drug Supply is responsible for a regulatory action if drugs of substandard quality are identified; therefore, Dr. Aaliyev suggested that a Mini-lab is placed at the laboratory of the Department of Drug Supply. RPM Plus and MOH discussed selection of training participants: only experts, who will directly carry out drug sample collection and drug testing by

utilizing Mini-lab procedures, will be included. RPM Plus suggested that one person from the NTP participates in the training as GFATM is planning to procure Mini-labs for their project (the NTP is planning to procure TB drugs for 6000 TB patients and GFATM would like to monitor the quality of the drugs procured through GFATM funding) and has funding to continue building on these efforts in the country.

The Department monitors each medical institution on an annual basis; and some medical institutions - several times per year. The Department is going to include Minilab testing in the scope of work of its monitoring team. The MOH and Department of Drug Supply will discuss the coordination and joint monitoring trips with NTP and Project HOPE. The Department of Drug Supply assumed a responsibility for monitoring, as well as development of a monitoring plans and sharing that plan with RPM Plus.

Future activities

Next steps include development, translation, and professional editing of the training materials, negotiations and arrangements with TTM and placement of an order for Minilabs and reagents for each participating country (to be done jointly with USP), communication with the MOH/counterparts to prepare and send the documents needed for the customs clearance, exploring availability of reagents in the country, and finalizing the list of participants. RPM Plus will submit an application for TARF.

NAMIBIA

Overview

During the quarter under review significant achievements included the go-live of the reworked workflow of the CMS which included the moving of the Receiving Bay from the Procurement Section to the Distribution Section, changing the Purchase order from one item per order to multiple items per order, and the introduction of a number of intervention points in the order processing system to ensure tighter supervisions and control over the process for accountability purposes. The first review of the system is scheduled for November 2004, to ensure that it is being run according to the agreed specifications. The MoHSS during the month of September finally appointed a substantive Distribution Pharmacist for the CMS. A perpetual stock count scheme has been instituted at the CMS and this, together with the improved replenishment report and other measures has resulted in a 56% increase of compliance of stock card records to physical stock. Stock data obtained at the end of September 2004 showed that the average percentage of stock card records that corresponds with physical counts was 53% up from 34% in November 2003, prior to the start of interventions. A major issue of concern was state of the floors at the Regional Medical Stores at Oshakati and Rundu. Discussions are ongoing between the MoHSS, Ministry of Works, and RPM Plus to initiate immediate action to repair the floors. One major outstanding issue relates to the inability to obtain a courtesy visa for the Information System Associate recruited in the previous quarter. RPM Plus initiated collaborative meetings with NACOP, CDC, NIP and MoHSS to address issues relating to storage and distribution of Rapid Test Kits, condom distribution and location of Pharmacists and Pharmacists' Assistants at ART facilities. These meetings have allowed good collaboration on a number of activities and programs. The review of the medicines registration and quality assurance system has pointed out a number of major weaknesses that needs addressing immediately. Paramount among these are the determination of the actual number of product applications pending review and the immediate engagement of a Quality Control pharmacist for the QSL. The engagement of a Pharmaceutical Management Advisor for the Policy Coordination Unit promises to facilitate activities relating to the strengthening of management support systems and the policy and legal framework for pharmaceutical management.

Major activities this quarter

• Review and propose revisions to the National Drug Policy, related laws and regulations and implementation plan and obtain consensus of stakeholders

• Review human resource policy for pharmaceutical management and make recommendations for formulating long term solutions

• Develop and implement a pharmaceutical management information system at all levels of the system

• Develop and implement an M&E system for pharmaceutical management

• Review and/or develop a condom policy to ensure that condom requirements are appropriately quantified and an efficient supply management system for condoms is maintained

• Develop and implement a scholarship scheme for training Namibian pharmacists

• Sponsor participation in relevant local & international training programs, conferences, seminars and meetings

• Salaries for 6 Pharmacists' Assistants seconded to MOHSS for 8 months

• Develop and implement appropriate systems for quantification of needs at all levels

• Develop a scheduled delivery system for distribution of pharmaceuticals from CMS/RMS to health facilities, including an appropriate transport management system

• Review and make recommendations for modifications to existing stores infrastructure to accommodate increased throughput and new ware house management system

• Salaries for Pharmaceutical Management Advisor and Information Systems Associate seconded to CMS

• Develop SOPs for pharmaceutical management for ART, PMTCT and VCT programs and provide training • Review and improve tools for data collection, analysis and dissemination to support determination of needs

• Provide training to pharmacy personnel in patient counseling, adherence and confidentiality

• Provide hardware and software to support pharmaceutical management at selected health facilities

• Develop drug information leaflets in local languages to support PMTCT and ART programs

• Provide training to Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee members and health care workers to ensure rational use of medicines

• Provide/repair pharmacy infrastructure and equipment to assure quality and provide security for pharmaceuticals.

• Provide adequate storage facilities for ARVs and commodities for management of HIV/AIDS

• Salaries for 4 pharmacists seconded to MOHSS

NICARAGUA

Overview

RPM Plus has received support from USAID/Nicaragua to provide technical assistance in pharmaceutical management since 2002. In July 2002, the Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program was invited to analyze the Nicaragua Ministry of Health's (MoH) pharmaceutical supply system. A policy-option workshop presenting problems and alternatives for solution was conducted in early November 2002 with involvement of high level authorities of the Ministry of Health (MINSA). Following the workshop the MoH established working groups to explore the alternative options proposed to increase the population's access to essential medicines. One of the options discussed was MINSA's support to the establishment of private sector mechanisms modeled after the "*Programa de Ventas Sociales de Medicamentos*" (VSM) to promote the creation of a network of retail outlets to sell low-cost quality-assured essential medicines. In September 2003 a RPM Plus mission visited Nicaragua to provide technical assistance to the technical working group for defining regulations and guidelines for the Program of VSM. The trip report, including a draft version of the Guidelines was elaborated and distributed on October 2003[3].

RPM Plus completed a comparative study of two distribution systems in 2004 and the results were discussed with the Vice Minister of Health and her technical team. A decision was made at the time to promote the reorganization of the main warehouse and delivery system through the current process of reorganization (reform) of MINSA. Working groups were formed to help define the functions of the central medical store (CIPS) and the job descriptions of the personnel that will be needed to conduct those functions. The teams included members of the reorganization team supported by other MSH project in Nicaragua.

For FY05, the USAID Mission in Nicaragua allocated financial resources to provide technical assistance to the Comisión Política Nacional de Medicamentos (CPNM), a commission that oversees the progress on the modification of the Drug Policy and Drug Legislation (Ley de Medicamentos y Farmacias), and the approval of the new Legislation by the General Assembly (Congress) regarding the expansion of the non-for profit drug outlets program (Ventas Sociales).

Major Activities this Quarter

Maria Miralles, RPM Plus Deputy Director, visited Nicaragua on April 24-30, 2005 to follow up on the activities of the CPNM. During the visit, the CPNM requested additional technical assistance from RPM Plus. Both RPM Plus and CPNM drafted and agreed on a tentative plan for the implementation of the activities.

[3] Valdés Julio, Edgar Barillas. Septiembre 2003. ***Informe de Viaje a Nicaragua***. Publicado para la Agencia de los Estados Unidos para el Desarrollo Internacional por el Programa Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus. Arlington, VA: Management Sciences for Health.

As a follow up of this visit, RPM Plus Senior Program Associate, Edgar Barillas, visited Nicaragua from June 13-17 to discuss with local counterparts the terms of reference of specific components and activities that RPM Plus will support in the following months. As a result of the visit, the CPNM, RPM Plus, and counterparts from the MoH agreed on the terms of reference of four activities that RPM Plus will support:

- The elaboration of basic guidelines and procedures for the pharmaceutical supply system, emphasizing on the relationship among the departments and units of the new organization of the MoH.
- The analysis of the current systems to estimate the needs of medicines and supplies, and elaboration of a proposal for a single mechanism to estimate the needs.
- Technical assistance to define the organization and functions of the Central Pharmaceutical and Therapeutic Committee (CURIM central), within the new organization of the MoH.
- Analysis of the current pharmaceutical quality assurance (QA) program of the Ventas Sociales de Medicamentos, and elaboration of a proposal to implement a comprehensive QA system taking into account the financial limitation of the VSM networks.

RWANDA PEP 2.0

Overview

Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program has received funds from the USAID Mission in Rwanda under the PMTCT and the Presidential Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief initiatives to assist the Mission in supporting the national scale up of ART activities and to meet health commodity needs in support of the expansion of HIV/AIDS programs. RPM Plus activities focus the following objectives

RPM Plus activities focus on three main technical objectives:

1. To strengthen the capacity of CAMERWA to plan, quantify, and implement national procurement of drugs and commodities, including those related to HIV/AIDS treatment and care.
2. To build the capacity of the Department of Pharmacy (DOP) in support to carry out key functions related to HIV/AIDS treatment and care
3. Provide technical assistance to National Reference Laboratory in order to facilitate the development of a National Laboratory Policy

Major activities this quarter

During this quarter MSH/RPM Plus has consolidated its role in establishing a Coordinated Procurement and Distribution System of ARVs, in close coordination with USAID and the MOH. In a first step a Quantification Committee for ARVs composed by TRAC, CAMERWA, and DOP with MSH/RPM Plus' TA was proposed to the MOH, and established during the months of April and May. The quantification of ARVs for June's procurement was performed as a joint exercise by the members of the committee. Data used for quantification was validated through field visits and programs' inputs, and the methodology and the use of the tool Quantimed was closely supervised by technical experts of MSH/RPM Plus. Results from the quantification were disseminated by email to all partners, and then presented in a meeting to the MOH, ART programs and donors. In the same meeting it was also presented a proposal to ensure good governance of the Coordinated Procurement System, which was commented and is still under revision. The overall system for pharmaceutical data collection has been improved through the training and implementation of pharmaceutical SOPs and tools in 53 ART delivery sites, in collaboration with TRAC, CAMERWA and DOP. At the same time, a monitoring system for consumptions and distribution of ARVs is being implemented in CAMERWA, which will improve the reporting system to ART programs and donors.

In regard to the laboratory activities, MSH/RPM Plus has facilitated the finalization of the National Laboratory Policy, and a Situation Analysis Report. Both documents are ready for editing. In addition, the laboratory SOPs for monitoring ART have been reviewed and will be field tested in July. All laboratory activities have been developed in close collaboration with NRL and other local laboratory experts, with the support of local and international MSH/RPM Plus staff.

MSH/PRM plus is increasing the number of technical and non-technical staff in order to respond to the increasing needs, including the recruitment of a full time senior advisor in CAMERWA.

SENEGAL

Overview

Over the last few years RPM plus has worked with the Ministry of Health and other partners in Senegal to determine the strengths and weakness of the pharmaceutical system to support child health and malaria services, in particular IMCI, malaria treatment and the prevention of malaria during pregnancy. Recent surveys conducted by the MoH, RPM Plus and BASICS II, studying Drug Management for Childhood Illness in the public sector and also at community level, discovered some weakness in drug availability and use that have been the target of activities by RPM Plus in conjunction with the MoH, BASICS II and other partners. These activities have focused on strengthening aspects of drug management for childhood illness. Senegal has recently changed their first line policy for malaria treatment from chloroquine to a combination of amodiaquine and SP and have introduced intermittent preventive therapy (IPT) using SP to prevent malaria during pregnancy. This raises new challenges in assuring the availability and rational use of drugs, especially in light of the findings of an RPM Plus study on IPT which showed that women did not receive antimalarials at antenatal clinics, but rather bought them from the private sector. The RPM Plus activities in Senegal are grouped into the following objectives: 1. Provide TA to the Senegal USAID Mission and MoH for drug management of malaria and child survival 2. Strengthen national capacity for drug management to improve availability and use of drugs in the public sector 3. Strengthen national capacity for drug management to improve availability and use of drugs in the private sector 4. Strengthen national capacity for drug management to implement malaria treatment and malaria in pregnancy

Major Activities in this Quarter

The RPM Plus technical advisor in country returned from his leave of absence and the short term consultant continued working on the private sector interventions. Assessment of commodities for HIV, TB and malaria The data analysis of the survey of commodity management for HIV, TB and malaria was completed in this quarter. Sections of the report have been drafted and disseminated for comment amongst the technical team involved: USAID, FHI and MSH. Preparations for the dissemination workshop, planned for August 2005, were begun, including logistics, handout documents for the participants and slides for the presentations. Orientation workshops for pharmacists Fifty private pharmacists attended an orientation session on rational drug use for childhood illnesses in Dakar in April. This culminates the orientation sessions nationwide. Training of counter assistants The training of trainers course and the first of the training of sales assistants is planned for September 2005. Training of health facility staff in store management 80 ICPs from five districts (Mbour, Louga, Nioro, Kaffrine and Mecke were trained in store management.

SOUTH AFRICA

Overview

One of the main objectives of the "Operational Plan for Comprehensive HIV and AIDS Care, Management and Treatment for South Africa" is to avoid the creation of new vertical programs and be able to use the implementation of the plan as an opportunity to strengthen the delivery of health services at all levels. The delivery of pharmaceutical services is one of the key components of the "Comprehensive Plan" implementation.

Through its comprehensive technical assistance program, RPM Plus supports the national plan through a number of strategies to be adopted at different levels of the pharmaceutical system. The program aims thus at the adoption of best practices for estimating provincial and national needs and budgets for ART, OIs, STIs, TB drugs and other related items and to monitor actual provincial purchases versus provincial estimates. Also the adoption of best practices for procurement, inventory management, distribution and dispensing of ARVs and other essential commodities at all levels. It seeks to identify gaps and to develop strategies to ensure compliance with national standards required to provide ART care and treatment through the assessments of provincial pharmaceutical management system infrastructures. The program also seeks to develop the skills of pharmacists and pharmacist assistants to expand their role in patient counseling, treatment adherence monitoring and education. Along with this, RPM plus program works on the standardization and delivery of drug supply management training materials and programs aimed at health staff involved with ARV roll-out. The program also focuses on strengthening provincial and institutional drug and therapeutic committees with a view to promoting reporting and monitoring system of adverse drug events (ADE). To date, RPM Plus has successfully trained over 250 health professionals in 8 provinces in setting-up drug and therapeutic committees.

Major Activities this Quarter

RPM Plus had initiated technical assistance activities related to the implementation of the provincial audits of pharmaceutical services to determine compliance of State facilities with legislation. Following the implementation of the audits in the provinces that took place starting in December, this quarter was spent on data-verification and reporting-writing.

A workshop was held to provide feedback to the North West Province in terms of audit findings. The workshop was attended by16 pharmacists and was held in Rustenburg, North West on May 18th. Also a report-writing meeting was held with the pharmacists of the Johannesburg Metro Health Medicines depot on June 2nd. Further work on the report is continuing. Meanwhile, the North West compliance report was completed and submitted for editing. The North West Pharmaceutical Services staff presented the report to their Senior Management Meeting, with the result that senior managers are now aware of the importance of addressing acute pharmacists shortage and the need to improve the facilities

In support to the development and implementation of the inventory and dispensing computerized management systems, the RxStore and RxDispensing modules were installed as a pilot this

quarter in the medicines store and the ARV pharmacy respectively of Rustenburg hospital in the North West Province. This was followed by a number of follow-up visits to provide support.

RPM Plus continued this quarter to support capacity building and dissemination of standardized approaches for quantification for ART, TB, STI and OI medicines. A second national quantification workshop was held during the month of April in Pretoria. This was also an opportunity for companies supplying ARV on tender to interact with representatives from the provinces. This was important to develop a better understanding of both the Provinces and the suppliers, in terms of each other's needs.

During this reporting period, the program attended a number of forums. RPM Plus addressed the workshop on "Contracting out of Pharmaceutical Services" held on May 19th at Fourways. The audience consisted mostly of members of Gauteng legislature. They have gained greater clarity and understanding of the role of Pharmaceutical services.

Also upon invitation, the program contributed to the Northern Cape Provincial Health Summit held on May 26th and 27th. – Representatives attended the AIDS Conference held 7-10 June in Durban as well as the SEAM conference held 19-23 June in Accra. RPM Plus also attended the SCC held on June 14th at Polokwane.

TAJIKISTAN

Overview

The government of Tajikistan is committed to implementation of DOTS, the WHO-recommended strategy to combat TB. In 2002, the government finalized a five-year National TB Program Plan supporting DOTS. The country has been receiving the medicines from GDF; however, Tajikistan needs to address a number of issues associated with the quality of TB drugs in anticipation of upcoming procurement efforts (to be funded by the GFATM). Pharmacists without Borders (PSF), through funding from ADB and ECHO, assisted the government in making first steps to develop drug policy and provided equipment for the laboratory of the State Center for Drug Expertise. In the meantime, the country has been facing a number of problems associated with non-registered medicines of unknown quality circulating in the retail sector, where TB patients from the areas that are not covered by DOTS need to buy their medicines. TB drugs of substandard quality can affect the outcomes of the TB treatment and lead to the development of resistance to TB medicines. Addressing Tajikistan's needs in technical assistance in drug quality assurance, and the requests from other Central Asian Republics, RPM Plus proposed a regional training in TB Drug Quality Assurance.

Activities during this quarter

The strategic objective of RPM Plus project in Tajikistan is to increase the capacity of TB programs to design, apply, and monitor appropriate interventions to ensure an uninterrupted supply of quality TB commodities. In June 2005, RPM Plus visited Tajikistan to discuss the upcoming regional training with main stakeholders, including MOH, State Center for Drug Expertise, NTP, and international organizations, including Project HOPE and PSF, and share information regarding the advantages of using TLC-based Minilab procedures, use of the method for the NTP and possible use in a number of other programs, and discussed a continued support for this activity. During the meeting with RPM Plus and USAID, Deputy Minister of Health Dr. Temurov stressed the importance of the drug quality assurance for Tajikistan and requested that the RPM Plus extends the training to cover not only testing of TB medicines but also additional pharmaceuticals. While the TOT covering other medicines is beyond the current scope of the work, it may be considered in the future, if additional funding is available. Given the importance of the drug quality assurance for the country, the MOH, counterparts and international organizations suggested including it in the list of questions for discussion at the high level multidisciplinary groups.

The MOH did not request any assistance from RPM Plus in clearing the Minilab and reagents from the customs; Dr. Temurov suggested that the Minilab is placed at the laboratory of the State Center for Drug Expertise and that Dr. Kholnazarov, the Director of the Center, will assume the responsibility for the customs clearance of the Minilab. The MOH agreed that RPM Plus and USP will not be responsible for payment of any taxes associated with the shipment. Based on the discussion of RPM Plus with MOH, NTP, DRA (State Center for Drug Expertise), and international organizations, the participants of the regional training from Tajikistan will be

selected from the laboratory of the State Center for Drug Expertise. The MOH will continue its support for the activity beyond the training; thus, the MOH considers a possibility of replenishing the required supplies/reagents through the GFATM, and monitoring in the field will be covered by the State Center for Drug Expertise. This topic was also discussed with Project HOPE, a primary recipient of the GFATM funding. Project HOPE TB Manager stated that the budget estimates for replenishing lab supplies and monitoring trips can be reflected in the GFATM application next year, upon discussing this with the MOH. RPM Plus discussed the roles and responsibilities of the DRA laboratory in implementing TLC-based Minilab procedures, integration of the method into the overall DQA activities, and future coordination between the DRA and NTP.

Future activities

Next steps include development, translation, and professional editing of the training materials, negotiations and arrangements with TTM and placement of an order for Minilabs and reagents for each participating country (to be done jointly with USP), communication with the MOH/counterparts to prepare and send the documents needed for the customs clearance, exploring availability of reagents in the country, and finalizing the list of participants. RPM Plus will submit an application for TARF.

UZBEKISTAN

Overview

The government of Uzbekistan has endorsed the implementation of the WHO-recommended DOTS strategy since its first introduction in pilot areas in 1998. With substantial support from the international community and donors, the government expanded its implementation efforts to ultimately achieve a nationwide coverage by 2004-2005. Emergence of new global initiatives, such as GFATM, implied additional support for DOTS expansion. Taking into account upcoming large procurement efforts and concerns about the quality of procured TB medicines, the government of Uzbekistan requested technical assistance in the drug quality assurance aspects of pharmaceutical management (meeting of RPM Plus Senior Program Associate with the Deputy Minister M. Khodjibekov). To address the request of the government of Uzbekistan, along with the concerns expressed by other countries in the region, RPM Plus will carry out a regional training in TB Drug Quality assurance.

Major activities during this quarter

The strategic objective of RPM Plus project in Uzbekistan is to increase the capacity of TB programs to design, apply, and monitor appropriate interventions to ensure an uninterrupted supply of quality TB commodities. During this quarter, RPM Plus planned to visit Uzbekistan on June 6, 2005 to coordinate with the MOH and national counterparts for preparations for the upcoming regional training in the country. Due to an unstable political situation in the country, the visit was cancelled, and USAID suggested a change in the training venue. RPM Plus and USAID CAR Mission discussed holding the regional training in Kazakhstan. RPM Plus contacted Dr. Khodjibekov, Deputy Minister of Health of Uzbekistan, to discuss the changes. Dr. Khodjibekov agreed with the proposed changes and confirmed participation of the experts from the national drug regulatory authority and the Center for Drug Policy of the MOH in the training. The Center for Drug Policy will be responsible for clearing a Minilab from the customs. The Minilab will be installed at the DRA laboratory.

Future activities

Next steps include development, translation, and professional editing of the training materials, negotiations and arrangements with TTM and placement of an order for Minilabs and reagents for each participating country (to be done jointly with USP), communication with the MOH/counterparts to prepare and send the documents needed for the customs clearance, exploring availability of reagents in the country, and finalizing the list of participants. RPM Plus will submit a TARF application.

VIETNAM

Overview

In June 2004, Vietnam was selected as the 15th country to receive USG assistance under The Emergency Plan; the intent is to bring a comprehensive response package to the HIV/AIDS problem in Vietnam through the development of sustainable prevention, care and treatment programs at all levels of the health care delivery system.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic in Vietnam is still in the "concentrated epidemic" stage by UNAIDS criteria. The disease has spread quickly in specific subpopulations, particularly among injecting drug users (IUD), commercial sex workers (CSW) and men who have sex with men (MSM). Through HIV/AIDS case reporting, the Ministry of Health estimates there are 76,189 HIV infected people in the country, of them 11,659 are AIDS patients. Deaths from AIDS reached 6,550 by the end of 2003. The current status of the epidemic does not mean it is restricted to these groups. With a population of 80.7 million (July 2004 est.), Vietnam is now facing a rapidly growing epidemic that is extending beyond the initial concentrations of drug injecting and commercial sex worker networks. Since 1998, all of Vietnam's 61 provinces have reported HIV and 12 provinces have each reported more than 1,000 HIV infections.

In March 2004, the Vietnamese government adopted a national government strategic plan, developed in coordination with partners and donors, for HIV/AIDS prevention and control: '*National Strategy on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control. Period 2004-2010 with a vision to 2010'*. With the epidemic still largely concentrated in specific subpopulation groups, simultaneous and coordinated work on prevention, treatment, care and support with these highly vulnerable populations is now seen as key to interrupting transmission and mitigating the impact of the epidemic.

RPM Plus visited Vietnam in September 2004 to discuss with key stakeholders how RPM Plus can best support efforts to mitigate the impact of the epidemic. MSH/RPM Plus visited select target ART implementation sites and other central bodies to review the pharmaceutical and commodities management systems and to determine their capacity to support ART implementation and related services. According, RPM Plus will provide technical assistance to the USG team, partners, and MOH counterparts on issues of pharmaceutical management of commodities for HIV/AIDS

The RPM Plus strategy calls for three objectives:

- **Objective 1**: Enhance the capacity of governmental, international or local partners in Vietnam to systematically identify, prioritize and address pharmaceutical management issues to improve access to and use of quality pharmaceutical products and other commodities for care, prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS
- **Objective 2**: Strengthen the pharmaceutical management capacity of referral, provincial, district, and other facilities to ensure an uninterrupted supply of quality HIV/AIDS pharmaceutical and other commodities at ART service delivery sites

- **Objective 3:** Procure ARVs on behalf of selected ART implementation sites, in accordance with Vietnamese National Standard Treatment Guidelines and USAID procurement regulations

Major activities this quarter

The RPM Plus Vietnam in-country office has been established, and the application for an operating permit with necessary supporting documents was submitted to PACCOM, the agency responsible for registration of organizations in Vietnam. In addition to the resident Senior Technical Advisor, Pharmaceutical Management, additional short term technical advisors have provided assistance, and Vietnamese national pharmaceutical and IT staff are being recruited. The RPM Plus submitted work plan has been approved by USAID.

Capacity development of governmental, international and local partners for pharmaceutical management for HIV/AIDS

- 4 major presentations have been held with MoH staff, including proposed distribution schedules for ARVs and donated fluconazole products, procurement and distribution methodologies, budgeting, and product shelf life.
- Several presentations have been made at international partner fora on the details of the ARVs to be supplied by PEPFAR, formulation, presentations and expected distributions.
- Detailed discussion have been held with WHO on the potential for a WHO supported drug management unit to assist the MoH in managing and coordinating all aspects of HIV/AIDS medicines supply with a special regard for ensuring donor program coordination.

Pharmaceutical Management Capacity

- 3 ARV familiarization training sessions have been held with groups of 20+ physicians at each session on the types, use and presentations of ARV which will be provided by the PEPFAR activities.
- Visits to 9 treatment sites have been made to undertake preliminary analysis of pharmaceutical management information systems, and to discuss potential use of a 3 form manual monitoring and reporting system.
- Agreement has been obtained to utilize the RPM Plus ITT system for central DMIS processing and to adapt the RPM Plus site ARV drug management system for use at the USG supported treatment sites in Vietnam.
- A fully interlinked and interactive computerized model incorporating all 30 treatment sites, detailed distribution schedule, forecasting of patient numbers and drug quantities and costs has been produced for ARV medicines; including 5 first line treatment regimes, second line regimes, pediatric regimes and PMTCT regimes.
- A separate fully interlinked and interactive computerized model incorporating all 30 treatment sites, an outline distribution schedule, forecasting of patient numbers for OI treatments and drug quantities and costs has been produced for 40 OI medicines.
- A preliminary assessment of the requirements of DMIS has been undertaken and recommendations on future activities for development of the RPM Plus ITT fore central level and ARV site management system have been accepted.
- Operation of the RPM ITT Inventory Tracking Tool System has commenced

- Translation of the RPM Plus ARV site management system into Vietnamese has commenced.

Procurement

- It has been announced that COP05 supplemental funding of $ 2.2 million for ARV medicines will be forthcoming, however, in view of the very urgent need to procure further HIV/AID medicines to ensure a continuation of supply for expected existing patients RPM Plus has undertaken the quantification, prioritization and undertaken a very rapid procurement of approximately $ 800,000 of ARV medicines. Further procurement is scheduled to occur as soon as the supplemental funds are released.
- Detailed distribution schedules, for an immediate issue, as soon as approval by MoH is granted, of ARV medicines to initial treatment sites has been produced and processed with Central Pharmaceutical Company #1. Drug receipt, picking and packing by site ready for issue have been supervised and recorded.
- Quantification on OI medicines has been undertaken and costing has been obtained from Central Pharmaceutical Company # 1 based in Hanoi, for possible procurement by CDC.

ZAMBIA

Overview

The Zambian Government has been reforming its health services since 1992. It produced its first National Health Strategic Plan to described its intent in bringing health services as close to the family as possible. And the USAID Zambia Mission has been a key cooperating partner assisting the Zambian Government to implement its health reforms. From 1995 - 2000, the Mission funded the Rational Pharmaceutical Management (RPM) project to work with the Ministry of Health and Central Board of Health to improve the pharmaceutical management system. The primary areas of assistance have been mainly in drug procurement, selection, promotion of rational use and logistics management systems.

In the first two years of the Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus project, the mission tripled its funding from $100, 000 to $280,000 to implement some of the milestones of the National Health Strategic plan for 2000 – 2005. RPM Plus worked with the Ministry of Health and Central Board of Health in policy formulation for improved management of malaria, child health, reproductive health, voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) drug supply management and rational use. RPM Plus worked with Central Board of Health to develop capacity at district level health facilities in self assessment, development of interventions and monitoring. In collaboration with the Zambia Voluntary Counseling and Training (ZVCT) RPM Plus started to formulate a project on information technology and commodity supply management system.

It is estimated that two million Zambians are infected with HIV and several are dying from HIV/AIDS related diseases annually. In response to the growing threat of death of the population, in 2002-2003, RPM Plus planned to utilize the $780,000 USAID Mission funding to increase its assistance to the Zambia Government in implementing an effective VCT information technology and health commodities management systems to support the Mission Expanded Response. RPM Plus will continue to assist the ZVCT and the HIV/AIDS Council in the selection, quantification and supply management of ARVs and other commodities.

Under the USAID SO3 “Increase use of improved, effective, and sustainable response to reduce HIV transmission and mitigate the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, malaria and antimicrobial resistance. As a result, the RPM Plus project focus is based on its results frame work, particularly in commodity management systems and research, technical leadership and strategic documentation and transfer of experience. The work plan was formulated to produce an impact on commodity availability, rational use and information documentation, retrieval and appropriate use.

RPM Plus Technical Objectives and Rationale:

1. Strengthening VCT Information and Health Commodities Supply Management System for Zambia Voluntary Counseling and Testing Service

2. Provide assistance to malaria drug treatment policy implementation

3. To increase capacity on drug supply management and development of interventions at district health facility level

4. Improve Rational Drug Use at national and district levels

5. Improve management of commodities in support of IMCI strategy at selected districts

Major activities this quarter

- Conducted a national training of provincial and district information officers in automated VCT/PMTCT commodity and information management systems (May).
- Supported supportive supervision to strengthen the implementation of the VCT/PMTCT Information and commodity management system through district facilitation, and automation of systems (May/June).
- Supported the printing of VCT/PMTCT Registers (April/May)
- Monitoring and evaluation the ZVCT VCT/PMTCT MIS and provision of Technical assistance to ZVCT (April/July)
- Participated in the malaria case management and research technical working group
- Facilitated one training course for trainers for pharmacy interns. Nine tutors were trained in April 12-14, 2005

ZAMBIA PEP 1.5

Overview

The CSO 2000DHS study indicates that 16% of the Zambian population is living with HIV/AIDS and 25% of the pregnant women are HIV positive giving birth to the approximate 40% of babies born with the virus. Government's response to the pandemic since the first case was in 1984 has been on prevention, blood and blood products safety and care, treatment of opportunistic infections, STIs and support. The approach for care, treatment and support has been to provide counseling, testing and treatment of HIV infected persons and encourage home based care through community approaches. Much of the health facility based management has been treatment of opportunist infections (OI) such as TB, fungal infection.

The Zambian Government took a policy decision to make ART widely accessible to its citizens through the public sector 2002. This decision was followed by an allocation of three million dollars ($3m) from domestic resources to procure ARV drugs to treat 10,000 persons. The guiding principles for introduction of antiretroviral (ARV) drugs in the public sector are to minimize the personal and social economic impact of HIV/AIDS with an objective of reducing morbidity, mortality, and encourage and support research in HIV/AIDS treatment and management. The program was to be implemented in a phased manner starting with two sites (UTH and Ndola Central Hospital) and extend to provincial health facilities and subsequently to other health facilities.

Zambia is also one of the countries earmarked to benefit from the WHO global strategy of treating 3 million people by year 2005 (3X5). Zambia's portion is to treat 100,000 people with ARVs by 2005. In addition, the country has access to the World Bank MAP project, GDFM, the US Presidential Initiative and now the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

On December 12, 2003, the USAID Zambian Mission requested the RPM Plus project to support the Zambian Government to mitigate HIV/AIDS. In response, RPM Plus will work to strengthen pharmaceutical and laboratory services in support of a comprehensive ART services at thirteen levels 2 and 3 ART sites. Major activities include: 1) Build capacity in support of pharmacy and laboratory services for ART 2) Work with CBoH to finalize, print and distribute national policy and SOPs for ART pharmaceutical and laboratory services 3) Strengthen national ART commodities selection, quantification and procurement procedures for ART 4) strengthen commodity and information management system in support of ART services.

Technical Objectives

1. Strengthen HIV/AIDS-related pharmaceutical care and commodity management services in selected health facilities in support of the provision of comprehensive PMTCT and ART services.

2. Strengthen Drug Supply Management Systems

Major Activities this Quarter

- Conducted five day training in ART Pharmacy and Laboratory Services management. The training also involved orientation of new pharmacy personnel, particularly the Nigerian pharmacists recently recruited. April
- ART Database User's meeting was held in April 4-5
- Supported the review and production of National Laboratory Safety Manual June
- Conducted supportive supervision to strengthen the commodity and information management system in support of ART services May/June
- National ART Commodities selection, quantification and procurement procedures for ART commodities meeting April
- Finalized the Standard Operating Procedures
- 3000 Pharmacy Standard Operating Procedures were printed May/June
- 1000 Laboratory Standard Operating Procedures were printed April/May

RPM Plus Activity and Product Status Report **Selection Criteria:** Reporting Year = Project Year 5 AND Reporting Quarter = Q3

Workplan: Mainstreaming Initiative **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop and field test pharmaceutical module for health system performance assessment tool

Activity Manager Miralles, Maria **Activity #** 1 **Task:** A1WW04MNS **Sub-Task:** 60AXJ1

Activity Description Work with partners (PHR Plus, QAP, and Policy Project) to develop an approach and tool to support the rapid assessment of health system performance and identify appropriate opportunities for interventions.

The field test of the tool will be managed by RPM Plus in at least one country.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM Plus joined PHR Plus, QAP, and other CAs in discussions on the goals of the new mainstreaming initiative. Opportunities for contributions by the various CAs were described. Among the activities that RPM Plus will be involved in is the development of a tool to assist USAID PHN officers and other relevant individuals conduct a rapid assessment of health system performance. RPM Plus also participated in a NEP training by making a presentation on pharmaceutical management within the context of health systems performance.	None.	Continue working with partners to develop and test the assesment tool.		

Last Updated: 05/29/2006

Workplan: Maternal Health **Year** 03

Activity Title Continue collaboration with partners to identify, assess, and address drug and health commodity issues for the prevention of post-

Activity Manager Thomas, Suzanne **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1WW03RPH **Sub-Task:** 60F5H2

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide targeted TA as identified in the needs assessments conducted in Program Year 3. RPM Plus already has a national level presence in Zambia targeting delivery of pMTCT through maternity centers, and PPH prevention activities will be managed under the same umbrella as these.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No further progress.	Funding levels for RPM Plus dictated that only TA to be implemented through on ground partner presence could be carried out. This was not possible as partners based at national level had had to reduce level of activity.			

Last Updated: 04/19/2006

Workplan: Maternal Health **Year** 04

Activity Title Collaborate with partners to analyze STGs for AMSTL and PPH and explore

Activity Manager Ndyanabangi, Bannet **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1WW04RPH **Sub-Task:** 60BXH2

Activity Description One of the intermediate results (IR) for this project is to increase the use of AMSTL for the prevention of PPH. In order to support this IR, and to support this PPH prevention initiative, RPM Plus proposes to do an assessment of the feasibility of undertaking a pooled procurement of the uterotonic(s) of choice for these 18 countries in the region.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	A scope of work was developed by RPM Plus to carry out the STGs review. A process to gather the STGs from West African countries was initiated in collaboration with USAID AWARE/RH Project.	The process of collecting STGs was difficult due to poor response and communication problems.	Follow-up with the collection of STGs.		

Last Updated: 10/27/2005

Workplan: Maternal Health **Year** 04

Activity Title Adapt Survey tools to be used by sub grantees under the POPPHI framework

Activity Manager Thomas, Suzanne **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1WW04RPH **Sub-Task:** 60CXH3

Activity Description In Project year 2, RPM Plus assisted in the development and administration of surveys in the four SO2 targeted countries of Benin, Ethiopia, Mali and Zambia. The surveys collected information to assess current drug management practice and the capacity to appropriately manage uterotonics for AMSTL. These large national surveys, while useful, are too cumbersome to be useful to local professional associations. RPM Plus will adapt these so that they can be quickly administered locally, and will focus on the use aspect of the drug management cycle. These will be used by subgrantees under the POPPHI framework. RPM plus will support the subgrantees as appropriate in carrying out the surveys and dissemination of the findings to policy makers. The REDSO Regional Office has expressed an interest in supporting the expansion of the use of AMSTL, and may find these instruments useful as well.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Participated in various partner forums to finalize survey instruments for the planned AMSTL surveys. The pharmaceutical management component of the survey instrument was finalized and submitted to POPPHI consultants for implementation.	None	The next meeting will take place in the next quarter to discuss the final integrated survey instrument before implementation.		

Last Updated: 04/18/2006

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 01

Activity Title Revision of the DMCI Tool.

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1WW01CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F6K2

Activity Description RPM Plus has planned to develop a more simplified DMCI tool for use at district level. The national DMCI assessment tool needs some revising to make it easier to follow and apply.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The district DMCI is waiting completion in line with the comments received. The DMCI is also awaiting final revisions.		Finalize the D-DMCI. Determine of what nature the revisions to the DMCI will be and move that forward.		

Last Updated: 07/15/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 01

Activity Title Produce a DMCI training materials package.

Activity Manager Derosena, Michael **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1WW01CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F6E3

Activity Description RPM Plus will design a curriculum and produce a package of materials to guide the training of data collectors and to facilitate the role of the trainer. The materials will enhance the continuity and sustainability of the application of DMCI.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The draft curriculum is awaiting the outcome of the DMCI revisions.		The curriculum will be revised in line with the DMCI revisions.		

Last Updated: 07/15/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 03

Activity Title Developing interventions guide to improve child survival drug management at community level

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1WW03CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F6K3

Activity Description A guide to interventions is being developed in order to orient district managers as well as policy makers, in the selection and development of interventions to improve availability and use of medicines in the community.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Harvard is still developing the guide, we are awaiting the next version to review.		Follow up with Harvard about when draft is expected. It may be possible to use the guide in Cambodia to strategize using the results of the recent C-DMCI survey.		

Last Updated: 09/30/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 03

Activity Title Provide TA to use RPM Plus tools to improve drug management in support of child health

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1WW03CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F6A4

Activity Description The range of DMCI tools is available for Ministries of Health and district managers, as well as organizations to use to identify the strengths and weakness in drug management as well as to develop interventions. RPM Plus will provide tools and guides as well as technical assistance in their application to countries or organizations. Requests may come from USAID Missions, World Bank, PVOs, partner CAs or even from other RPM Plus portfolios such as in support of PMTCT activities. RPM Plus will support assessment activities as well as the development and the monitoring of interventions.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Met with IRC, Intrahealth, Concern & USAID in Rwanda to discuss using a C-DMCI survey to support community-based ARI. Discussed and advised on use of C-DMCI with MSH Malawi. Reviewed results of the C-DMCI survey in Cambodia and provided guidance to the ANE team.		RPM Plus will review and have input into tools developed by partners in Rwanda. Conduct the provider survey of C-DMCI to assess the use and availability of cotrimoxazole in the community in Rwanda. Follow up on status of tool in Malawi. Continued support on the Cambodia survey as needed.		

Last Updated: 07/15/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 03

Activity Title Dissemination of tools

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1WW03CHS **Sub-Task:** 60G2D5

Activity Description Translate the C-DMCI tool into French to increase its potential use in French-speaking countries. Disseminate all the tools, as well as assessment results, through meetings and networks. Use the RPM Plus website to post reports of assessments and descriptions of the tools with contact information from which to obtain CD ROMs of the tools. Start to adapt the existing DMCI analysis software package from EPI-info into Access, which is easier to use and more readily available and will also include capabilities to analyze the C-DMCI survey data.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Final revisions conducted to the Cambodia database. Reviewed and sent database to RACHA for the analysis of the C-DMCI data. Prepared an abstract for the SEAM conference in Accra and presented on the planned CS activities in the private sector in Tanzania as an innovative example.		Finalize the user manual of the CDMCI database. Finalize draft pieces for the web site.		

Last Updated: 09/30/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 03

Activity Title Collaborate with BASICS II to implement drug management interventions

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1WW03CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F6H6

Activity Description RPM Plus will continue to offer technical assistance to BASICS II in the implementation and evaluation of community-based distribution of antibiotics for the treatment of pneumonia for example in Senegal and Benin.

RPM Plus and BASICS II will finalize, produce and disseminate a "how to-manual" to improve drug and commodities availability and use for child survival.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Drafted a literature review on gentian violet for the BASICS newborn team. Discussed collaboration in DRC and Rwanda and continued ARI work in Senegal. Discussed RPM's role in DRC and the input needed: possibilities include part hire of a coordinator for ARI activities, funding supervision, and/or a baseline assessment		Follow up with BASICS and AID on Senegal ARI roll out. Follow up with AED on the planning of the regional meeting on community case management of ARI. Follow up with AID on RPM involvement in Ethiopia and Benin in community case management of ARI. Complete a final draft of the action guide for publication as an RPM document. Follow up with Indira on the global document for RPM input as well as the Senegal activities. Specific TA to the continued activities in DRC to set up the ARI community management activities.		

Last Updated: 07/15/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 03

Activity Title Implement community drug management interventions in the LAC region

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 7 **Task:** A1WW03CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F6H7

Activity Description RPM Plus will follow up on the C-DMCI assessment conducted in Peru in 2003 with a strategy planning workshop to assist program planners in the country to select and develop appropriate interventions to improve community drug management for childhood illnesses. After the selection of appropriate interventions, RPM Plus will continue to work with partners in country and provide technical assistance to guide the development, planning and implementation of the interventions, through, for example, the provision of training materials and sharing of tools and experiences from other countries.

RPM Plus has been requested by PAHO to provide technical assistance to their program of PMTCT/IMCI integrated activities in Latin America. In collaboration with PAHO, specific activities will be determined from these proposals and technical assistance provided by RPM Plus where necessary.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The English version of the report is being revised.		Follow up with SAIDI and PAHO to ensure implementation of some key interventions in Peru to improve availability and use at community level. Follow up with PAHO the plans for the IMCI/PMTCT initiatives for which they requested RPM Plus TA.		

Last Updated: 07/15/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 03

Activity Title Collaborate and share information with other global organizations working in child health

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 8 **Task:** A1WW03CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F6H8

Activity Description RPM Plus will identify areas where its expertise is needed and collaborate with other organizations to provide technical assistance in drug management for child health. Through attending group meetings of USAID and other bodies, presenting at conferences and interaction with networks, such as the CORE group of PVOs working in Child Survival and other information-exchange forums both in the US and abroad, and producing information sheets, RPM Plus will brief other organizations on its activities in the field of drug management and child survival and disseminate its reports, tools and experiences as well as ensure that drug management is on the global child health agenda.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Completion of a concept paper and presentation on using the HIV commodity tracking tool for resource tracking for child health for a meeting in London. The group decided to move ahead with use of the tool in two countries and present experiences in Dec 2005. Discussion with the WHO working group conducting the CS sub-analysis of national health accounts on parameters (eg age, conditions etc) for their analysis as these will also apply to the CTT for CS.		Develop a methodology for using the CTT to track child health resources. Share and discuss with partners.		

Last Updated: 07/15/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 04

Activity Title Technical activity coordination and monitoring

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 1 **Task:** A1WW04CHS **Sub-Task:** 97XXY1

Activity Description n/a

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	A Senior Program Associate was oriented to child survival activities as he will be working on the Tanzania portfolio as well as possibly other CS activities.				

Last Updated: 09/02/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 04

Activity Title Technical assistance to USAID, UNICEF and other partners for the role out of Zinc treatment for diarrhea.

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1WW04CHS **Sub-Task:** 60CXH2

Activity Description Promote the roll-out of zinc treatment for diarrhea in public and private facilities of specific countries.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Drafted guidelines for key messages for the job aids for private pharmacies and contacted other USAID partners working in health communications to discuss job aid production.		We are awaiting input from Zinc team at USAID on job aid guidelines. RPM Plus will participate with USAID and other partners in an assessment in Madagascar for zinc rollout. RPM Plus will provide input to the zinc implementation guidelines developed by WHO.		

Last Updated: 09/08/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 04

Activity Title Implement private sector initiatives in Tanzania.

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1WW04CHS **Sub-Task:** 60AXH3

Activity Description To improve access to child health medicines in intervention areas through community mobilization and improved service delivery through the private sector.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The TFDA approved the meeting report, and a working group was established. The program design of the child health component of the ADDOs was drafted with the working group. A Senior Program Associate identified and hired to start on August 1 2005.		Orient the new Senior Program Associate to the project and to MSH. Start implementation of the CS component of the ADDOs. Finalize the systematic review of private sector interventions. Completion of the evaluation of the SHEF franchising intervention.		

Last Updated: 09/02/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop drug management training in support of IMCI

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1WW04CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F6M4

Activity Description Improve availability and use of drugs for child health in areas where IMCI is implemented.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No activity during this quarter on this activity.		Renew contact with WHO.		

Last Updated: 09/02/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 04

Activity Title Technical assistance in the community treatment of pneumonia

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1WW04CHS **Sub-Task:** 60EXH5

Activity Description Promote availability and appropriate use of medicines required for treatment of pneumonia at community level.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Progress to date on this activity is reported in A1 WW03CHS 60F6H6. Additionally: Participated in discussion on the Community Case Management (CCM) guide with the CORE Group. Participated in CCM meetings with CORE at Global Health Council, a reception for those working in the field of CCM of ARI and a teleconference with CORE Group partners.		Contribute to the CORE group CCM essentials guide. Follow up with AID on country activities.		

Last Updated: 09/08/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 04

Activity Title Global advocacy for pharmaceutical management in child survival programs

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1WW04CHS **Sub-Task:** 60GXD6

Activity Description Promote pharmaceutical management for child health as an item on international agendas.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Progress on this activity is reported in A1 WW03CHS 60F6H8.		Further explore the role of RPM in the global child survival partnership.		

Last Updated: 09/02/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 04

Activity Title Technical input to management of pediatric HIV/AIDS and PMTCT

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 7 **Task:** A1WW04CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F2H7

Activity Description Implementation of activities to improve pharmaceutical management for CS and RH integrated into PMTCT activities.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Attended meetings at GHC and MSH on Pediatric AIDS and IMCI and drafted suggestions for how to link RPM activities with CS activities on this topic.		All activities on this subject will in the future be directed through the RPM HIV team.		

Last Updated: 09/02/2005

Workplan: Child Survival **Year** 04

Activity Title Mainstreaming health systems strengthening

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 8 **Task:** A1WW04CHS **Sub-Task:** 60AXH8

Activity Description n/a

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Revised the Technical Reference Manual (TRM) on Managing Drug Supply for the CSTS project and Child Survival Grants program. Drafted the pharmaceutical module for the USAID health systems assessment package. Attended meeting with USAID to discuss goals of the tool and review the draft. Sent revised template, redrafted model and updates to USAID.		CSTS accepted the revisions to the TRMs. USAID has received the final version of the pharmaceutical module and QAP will be contacting RPM Plus for follow on activities.		

Last Updated: 09/30/2005

Workplan: HIV/AIDS **Year** 03

Activity Title Update the Rapid HIV test kits procurement information document

Activity Manager Johnson, Abiola **Activity #** 10 **Task:** A1WW03HIV **Sub-Task:** 60AXGC

Activity Description RPM Plus will use leftover funds from Y3 to publish the 3rd edition of the HIV test kits procurement information document. A new waiver will be approved in Q1 of Y4 and this will include a few new HIV test kits. Research will be undertaken on the newly-added HIV test kits. In addition, to updating the hard copy of the document, the html version will also be updated

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Document was finalized and sent for review with the editing team. Final version of the document will be ready in June. Work has begun on updating the webversion of the document which is projected to go live on June 27 after which dissemination of the hard copies will also begin	None	Dissemination to USAID Missions and CAs, via regular mail and email. Document is available in 2 versions - online version and hard copy version	HIV test kits listed in the USAID Source and Origin Waiver - Procurement Information Document (3rd Edition)	

Last Updated: 08/26/2005

Workplan: HIV/AIDS **Year** 04

Activity Title Development of "Commodity Management in ART Programs: A Planning Guide"

Activity Manager Walkowiak, Helena **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1WW04HIV **Sub-Task:** 60F2E2

Activity Description The goal of the Commodity Management in ART Programs Planning Guide will be to provide practical guidance on commodity management issues related to establishing, managing and scaling up ART programs both at both the national and program levels. The guide is intended to assist a range of audiences, including national program planners and policy makers, governments, and donors who are currently or are planning to support ART service delivery and ART service implementers, to systemize their approaches to strengthening commodity management for ART services.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No progress	The activity manager was deployed to spearhead activities under PEPFAR in Kenya, Zambia, Namibia.	Work on this activity will commence as soon as the activity manager is available from PEPFAR assignments in Kenya, Zambia and Namibia.		

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: HIV/AIDS **Year** 04

Activity Title Conduct feasibility studies in Tanzania and Zambia to explore approaches to integrate single-dose pediatric NVP into PMTCT service

Activity Manager Saleeb, Sameh **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1WW04HIV **Sub-Task:** 60F8A3

Activity Description Along with partners, RPM Plus will support the application of a new single dose nevirapine package device. RPM Plus will use FY04 funds to cooperate with partners to roll out this program in Tanzania and Zambia. and to identify commodity management issues related to the scale-up use of the single dose device in PMTCT programs.
In each country, RPM Plus will review the regulatory aspects of the initiative including registration, procurement, and distribution issues that will be involved in assuring access to single dose NVP, with a particular emphasis on the in-country pharmacy/clinic repackaging scenario. The country studies will address pharmaceutical policy, legal and regulatory issues; procurement, quality assurance and distribution strategies; and the management support necessary to ensure full access to single dose pediatric NVP. Each country report will describe the pharmaceutical management issues involved in introducing this new product/technology into the country.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No progress	This activity has not progressed because it involves various partners. Discussions on how to proceed have not been conclusive.	Consult the USAID on what the next steps will be.		

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: HIV/AIDS **Year** 04

Activity Title Provide TA and attend meetings for collaboration and coordination in response to requests from USAID, WB, WHO, GATM, NGOs,

Activity Manager Ndyanabangi, Bannet **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1WW04HIV **Sub-Task:** 60F2H4

Activity Description RPM Plus will work with USAID/OHA to identify and approach international agencies including UNAIDS and WHO, the World Bank and other donors and organizations to establish mechanisms to exchange information on activities related to HIV/AIDS health commodity management and to identify opportunities for collaboration to address health commodity management issues. These activities may include collaborating on assessments, follow-on health commodity management technical assistance and training and assisting countries to scale-up activities. Opportunities to provide technical assistance and support to HIV/AIDS global and regional initiatives to address health commodity management issues will also be identified.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Facilitated at the Procurement and Supply Management (PSM) workshop to support Global Fund for AIDS TB and malaria grant recipient countries to develop and finalize their PSM plans in Arusha for East and Central Africa –April 2005 Facilitated at the Procurement and Supply Management (PSM) workshop to support Global Fund for AIDS TB and malaria grant recipient countries to develop and finalize their PSM plans in Abuja Nigeria –June 2005		These workshops have been well received by Countries and various partners. The USAID/WARP Project in West Africa has agreed to provide more funding to provide TA to more countries that receive GFATM grants to finalize their PSM Plans.		

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: HIV/AIDS **Year** 04

Activity Title Development of Enhancers and Monitoring Tools to promote patient adherence to ART

Activity Manager Witt, Hella **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1WW04HIV **Sub-Task:** 60EXH4

Activity Description During previous program years, RPM Plus, in collaboration with Stop TB/WHO and the World Bank used SO5 FY03 funding to develop and field-test a motivations mapping tool which helps stakeholders in tuberculosis control identify key obstacles to optimal patient and provider performance and to determine possible interventions to improve program performance. This tool has been used with TB control stakeholders National Tuberculosis Program (NTP) staff at national, regional and district levels) in three countries: China, Uganda and Tanzania and is presently being finalized. Using FY05 funding, RPM Plus proposes to adapt this tool for HIV/AIDS treatment programs, to assist program planners and implementers to identify and develop interventions to address patient-specific issues such as barriers to coming forward for testing and/or barriers to adherence to treatment. The tool will be field-tested using FY05 funding, in one (most likely African) country.

The adherence activities supported by the SO4 portfolio will complement and synergize with other adherence activities being proposed under the AMR portfolio using FY05 funding. Activities under both portfolios will contribute to the ultimate goal of developing a "menu" of possible intervention options to improve adherence in developing country settings, which w

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Three papers were developed and submitted for final review Abstracts for ICASA were developed and submitted Preliminary discussions were held with regards to adapting the TB motivations mapping tool to HIV/AIDS Revisions/updates were made to the RPM Plus adherence web pages Work began on revising the survey		Finalize three papers, pass through editing and submit two for publication. Continue discussions on adapting the motivations mapping tool Finish revision of the survey and send out		

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: HIV/AIDS **Year** 04

Activity Title Review Literature and Develop paper for HIV/TB Commodities Integration

Activity Manager Witt, Hella **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1WW04HIV **Sub-Task:** 60F3G6

Activity Description The activity will investigate the process made to date in pharmaceutical management related to TB/HIV collaboration and develop consensus on the critical issues and activities needed to strengthen the collaboration. The issue of strengthening collaboration between the programs will be addressed in a study conducted by RPM Plus TB and HIV teams with funding from the SO4 and SO5 FY04 portfolio. A desk review will be conducted to determine the status of policies, guidelines, and programs of HIV/AIDS TB collaboration in management of pharmaceuticals and other health commodities in different countries. The report will also document models of promising practices for dissemination as case studies.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	An initial literature review has shown that the pharmaceutical management aspects of TB/HIV collaboration are very little documented in the current literature. The study approach was therefore modified to include site assessments at different countries which reported ongoing or planned activities in TB/HIV collaboration. A two phase study outline was prepared and reviewed. A number of countries for which the literature review suggests ongoing TB/HIV collaborative activities were prepared. An interview guide was prepared and reviewed to be used at national level with key stakeholders involved in TB and HIV pharmaceutical management.	The desktop review showed that there is two little documentation on pharmaceutical management in TB/HIV collaboration to study the subject only through literature research. The modified study approach requires more time and resources, but will also lead to more detailed findings.	The feasibility of studying TB/HIV collaboration in the pre-selected countries will be verified. Local MSH staff or consultants will be identified, trained, and possibly contracted as applicable to carry out stake holder interviews in individual countries.		

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: HIV/AIDS **Year** 04

Activity Title Review of Procurement of HIV/AIDS Related Commodities under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

Activity Manager McCollum, Jennifer **Activity #** 7 **Task:** A1WW04HIV **Sub-Task:** 60F8H7

Activity Description During 2003/2004, RPM Plus developed a database to serve as a repository to catalogue HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals being provided to targeted countries. The database needs to be tested with real procurement data from the field. RPM will collect data in a selected number of countries targeted through the Presidential Emergency Plan, catalogue it and analyze it. This will enable RPM Plus to provide feedback to USAID to support their decision making process.
The outcome of this activity will provide a test case for including HIV/AIDS commodities being provided to target countries by other major HIV/AIDS donor initiatives (i.e., the Global Fund, the World Bank, and the Clinton Foundation) to be added to the database. Reports from the system will serve to make inter-country comparisons and will serve to track commodity flow in respect to program targets.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	While entering information available from IDA invoices for Ethiopia, Kenya, Haiti procurements, we ran into several prgram errors. As a result, RPM Plus requested a structural redesign for improved functionality and decided to purchase the upgrade, again for improved functionality and usability.	Bugs in software/database program were encountered. Version 5.0 upgrade should correct program errors of earlier version.	A Beta version of CTT, version 5.0 will be delivered by Synergy no later than August 20th.		

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: HIV/AIDS **Year** 04

Activity Title Present and Disseminate Materials at Workshops, Conferences and Meetings

Activity Manager Ndyanabangi, Bannet **Activity #** 8 **Task:** A1WW04HIV **Sub-Task:** 60F2D8

Activity Description With FY05 funding, RPM Plus will work on actively disseminating these materials using a variety of approaches and media channels. This funding will also be used to present and disseminate materials on RPM Plus products and experiences in strengthening pharmaceutical management systems at conferences and meetings. RPM Plus will send representatives to the ICASA conference in 2005 to present abstracts, participate in satellite sessions and to disseminate tools and materials as appropriate. RPM Plus will work with OHA to identify other opportunities and appropriate topics to present at workshops, conferences and meetings

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM plus was represented at the SEAM confrence where presentations on Rational Drug Use in ART programs, Pediatric ART and adherence to ARVs were made.		Preparation for participation in the ICASA conference scheduled for Dec 2005 in Abuja Nigeria are underway. RPM plus has submitted a total of five abstracts.		

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: HIV/AIDS **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop and Disseminate Laboratory Service Training Materials for HIV/AIDS Treatment and Care

Activity Manager Holland, Ross **Activity #** 9 **Task:** A1WW04HIV **Sub-Task:** 60DXE8

Activity Description Using FY04 RPM Plus will develop the laboratory training materials, print them and also produce a CD version.

RPM Plus will use FY04 funds to review, finalize and disseminate these materials as part of a package of HIV/AIDS laboratory training materials for service providers at the facility level. The materials will be reviewed and adapted to develop a “generic” package of a training manual and make the tools web-based and available on CDROM. RPM Plus will work with OHA to identify appropriate external reviewers, and once finalized, to identify appropriate strategies to disseminate the training materials.
This activity will begin in the second quarter of FY04 and continue throughout the year.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	In conjunction with staff experienced in the technical aspects of laboratory management and the requirements of an ART service in particular, a needs analysis was conducted and a training program design developed. Content material is currently being identified and developed	The need for the technical adviser to undertake field trips concurrent with this course development is a rate-limiting factor	Further collaboration with technical staff for finalization of the training manual and development of training materials - presentation and workshop materials to support the manual		

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: HIV-PMTCT **Year** 03

Activity Title Web HIV/AIDS Information Sharing Tool

Activity Manager Speed, Arin **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1WW03HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXJ4

Activity Description RPM Plus will develop a Web-based data repository to catalogue HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals being provided to targeted countries. Initially, the focus will be on the 14 priority countries identified by the U.S. President's HIV/AIDS Initiative. RPM Plus also will contact the Global Fund and the World Bank to share information about pharmaceuticals procured through their respective HIV/AIDS initiatives for the 14 priority countries. RPM Plus has leveraged funds from the CPM Strategies for Enhancing Access to Medicines (SEAM) program to support this pharmaceuticals tracking activity. SEAM has purchased commercially available software (Intelligent Data Manager software) that is being adapted for this activity. The cost to the SEAM program includes unlimited licensing of the software and adaptation costs. The pharmaceuticals tracking software, coupled with CPM's extensive experience in developing and maintaining the International Drug Price Indicator Guide, which is available both in print and Web-based versions, puts RPM Plus is in a good position to move quickly in developing final plans for and implementing the proposed activity. After the initial phase of work, HIV/AIDS drugs being provided to other developing countries by the major HIV/AIDS donor initiatives (i.e. the Global Fund, the World Bank, and the Clinton Foundation) will be added to the database.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	A new data template was created and several conference calls were conducted with MSH field offices. Currently, discussions resume with the progamming company to continue refinements along with the decision to upgrade the system to IDM version 5.0; giving the user more capabilities and flexibilities in entering, viewing, and using the data. Data was received from MSH-Kenya and will be used to do the data entry testing in the revised program.	Currently waiting for the latest version of the program to be completed and released in order to resume data entry.	Work with the programming company to successfully complete the upgrade and last set of modifications. Also, collect more data from field offices and continue to make frequent contacts and rally for more data when it becomes available.		

Last Updated: 07/14/2005

Workplan: HIV-PMTCT **Year** 03

Activity Title QUANTIMED Revisited

Activity Manager Akhlaghi, Laila **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1WW03HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXJ5

Activity Description RPM Plus used funds from previous years to develop the Quantimed tool to quantify and cost estimate drug requirements for different conditions including VCT, PMTCT and ART. Also SO4 funds for FY 03 will be used to disseminate the Quantimed tool. FY 03 PMTCT funds will be used to adapt and enhance the tool to incorporate a projection function, to develop a user's manual and to test the tool using standard treatment guidelines from two target countries, under the Presidential Initiative.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Continued progress on Quantimed software and edits to User Guide.		Continue to train RPM Plus and staff and Ministry of Health counter-parts in PEPFAR countries on Quantimed for ARV quantification.		

Last Updated: 07/12/2005

Workplan: HIV-PMTCT **Year** 03

Activity Title Evaluate, update and web-enable Guidance Document

Activity Manager Akhlaghi, Laila **Activity #** 9 **Task:** A1WW03HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXD9

Activity Description The guidance document will be evaluated based on feedback from users. Review and update will take place and an interactive version will be created for the website.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The document was reviewed and key elements for modification of the document were identified. Complete listing of manufacturers that manufacture, including different formulations of ARVs.		Revision and update of Guidance document.		
					Last Updated: 07/12/2005
Project Year 5 Q3	Research continued on the document and updates on the outdated webpages were implemented	Still awaiting approval of the new table of contents	Once the new blanket ARV waiver is available, information on this will be used to update certain sections of the document		
					Last Updated: 10/03/2005

Workplan: HIV-PMTCT **Year** 03

Activity Title Develop and Disseminate Laboratory Service Training Materials for HIV/AIDS Treatment and Care

Activity Manager Holland, Ross **Activity #** 11 **Task:** A1WW03HIP **Sub-Task:** 60DXEA

Activity Description Using FY04 RPM Plus will develop the laboratory training materials, print them and also produce a CD version. RPM Plus will use FY04 funds to review, finalize and disseminate these materials as part of a package of HIV/AIDS laboratory training materials for service providers at the facility level. The materials will be reviewed and adapted to develop a "generic" package of a training manual and make the tools web-based and available on CDROM. RPM Plus will work with OHA to identify appropriate external reviewers, and once finalized, to identify appropriate strategies to disseminate the training materials. This activity will begin in the second quarter of FY04 and continue throughout the year.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	None	Awaiting completion of project code A1 WW04HIV 60DXED for materials to edit and format	Materials expected mid October		

Last Updated: 09/29/2005

Workplan: Antimicrobial Resistance **Year** 04

Activity Title Implement a Country Level AMR Advocacy and Containment Program

Activity Manager Joshi, Mohan **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1WW04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60AXP2

Activity Description The AWG will plan and stage a large stakeholder meeting to enhance the advocacy and coalition building process to combat the problem of AMR. This will include efforts to mobilize local media and donors. Review of the existing pre-service health professional curricula will be attempted to determine the level of exposure to topics such as AMR and rational antimicrobial use. Based on lessons learned from the Zambia experience, work will also be initiated towards applying a similar approach in a second country.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The rapid assessment on continuing education offered to health providers in Zambia on AMR and rational antimicrobial use is now complete and the consultant is finalizing the report. The AMR Advocacy Working Group (AWG), in collaboration with the Zambia National Formulary Committee (ZNFC) and the Central Board of Health, organized a workshop for from 27th to 29th of June 2005, with a focus on implementation and utilization of the standard treatment guidelines for infectious diseases of major public health importance as a way to support the overall AMR activity in Zambia. The workshop was attended by about 30 physicians both from the public and private sectors. Dr. Joshi presented the pilot application of the USAID country AMR containment approach in Zambia and the lessons learned so far from this experience at the SEAM Conference held in Accra, Ghana from June 20 to 22, 2005.	none	AWG to forward the recommendations of the above STG-AMR workshop to ZNFC for consideration of revision of the infectious disease components of the National STG AWG to interact with potential donors to seek funding support for the print and radio materials created recently. Draft SOWs and recruit local consultants to review curricula for medicine, pharmacy and nursing in order to determine AMR content for pre-service training and incorporation in the curricula. Explore with JHPIEGO for potential collaboration on possible infection prevention/control activity as an additional intervention area for AMR containment in Zambia	Completed workbook Trip reports	none

Last Updated: 08/02/2005

Workplan: Antimicrobial Resistance **Year** 04

Activity Title Preventing Resistance to Antiretrovirals by Improving Adherence

Activity Manager Arnow, Paul **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1WW04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60EXA3

Activity Description Two data collection tools will be provided to participating facilities to enable them to characterize adherence support measures and tabulate adherence each quarter. The first tool is a logbook of patients receiving ART, grouped by regimen. Each facility can choose which ARV regimens to gather information about each quarter and which indicators to record. Instructions about how to enter information will accompany the logbook. The second data collection tool is a quarterly summary of adherence measures and indicators that will be transmitted to MSH for benchmarking and subsequent feedback of results to facilities. The summary form will also have instructions and worksheets for calculations. The third tool for development is a "menu of options" for adherence interventions.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	A new activity manager was identified. Gavin Steel, Senior Program Associate with RPM Plus in Pretoria, South Africa, agreed to lead the activity. The activity is comprised of two major elements. One is an ART adherence measurement tool and another is an adherence promotion initiative.	none	Work with Gavin Steel to refine and contextualize the proposal. Secure approval of the activity by South African government. Develop the tools for piloting.	Tools to measure ART adherence. Updates on adherence interventions	Tools to measure adherence drafted.

Last Updated: 08/02/2005

Workplan: Antimicrobial Resistance **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop Guidelines for the Review of Curricula Addressing AMR

Activity Manager Holland, Ross **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1WW04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60F1F4

Activity Description A guidance document will be developed. Its focus will be on developing a suitable methodology that low resource countries can use to evaluate their training curricula for addressing AMR at the pre-service level, recommending a core set of AMR topics, and providing a draft implementation guidelines for introducing AMR related topics into pre-service curricula.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The preliminary stages of this project have involved extensive literature search and review in the areas of: the background for the need for AMR, AMR curricula content, and curriculum development and change in medical education. This stage is now complete.	Ability to obtain information about current AMR teaching practices in faculties of medicine in resource-limited settings has slowed progress a little.	Next steps involve preparing a document to aid faculty of medicine staff in resource limited countries to assess the status of AMR teaching in the pre-service curriculum and provide guidelines for integrating AMR curricula topics as needed.	Guideline document	Literature search and review on curricula is complete.

Last Updated: 08/08/2005

Workplan: Antimicrobial Resistance **Year** 04

Activity Title Strengthen Hospital Drug and Therapeutics Committees through DTC-TOT Training

Activity Manager Joshi, Mohan **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1WW04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60B4M5

Activity Description The recently developed and revised TOT manual will be used in the staging of a DTC-TOT course in another developing country. RPM Plus will collaborate with local implementing partners in the selection, planning and facilitating of the course. RPM Plus will also initiate plan to assess the impact of the DTC-TOT courses.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The DTC TOT course announcement and application was finalized and widely disseminated. The materials were distributed on e-drug, as well as on listserves from previous PRDU and DTC courses, and the ICIUM and SEAM conference lists. Contracting with USM was finalized. Applications are being submitted and the AMR portfolio will select a few strong applicants to support. Select participants from the DTC course in Uganda regularly provide updates on their status. A spreadsheet was developed to capture those efforts as they are shared.	none	USM to submit first invoice to receive funds for further on-the-ground coordinating. Continue to provide technical assistance follow up to DTC participants. Revise the DTC website.	DTC TOT Trip Report	none

Last Updated: 08/02/2005

Workplan: Antimicrobial Resistance **Year** 04

Activity Title Work with VOA to Expand AMR Communication Activities

Activity Manager Arnow, Paul **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1WW04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60F1H6

Activity Description RPM Plus and its partners will support the training of broadcast and print journalists through multiple activities. Technical assistance also will be provided to VOA staff preparing television programming related to AMR. A comprehensive file of disease- and region-specific briefing papers and fact sheets will be developed to stimulate, guide, and enrich broadcast stories.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Niranjan Konduri developed and submitted an "AMR Terminology" glossary for use by VOA journalists. APUA is a partner on this activity and has also worked extensively with VOA. Their efforts include: 1. Reviewed AMR issues in Africa 2. Briefed VOA journalists on AMR 3. Supported VOA staff in the development of the AMR CD-ROM in English for Africa. 4.Provided guidance and relevant materials to Dr. Eyako Wurapa, a physician from Ghana who will work on the AMR module. 5.Compiled materials to train Journalists in Northern Nigeria on Public Health Journalism 6. Provided VOA staff with web resources on HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria 7.Provided an article about AMR in Africa written by APUA BOD Dr. Iruka Okeke and Dr. Anibal Sosa 8.Translated the Training Guide for Journalists Reporting on Antimicrobial Resistance Issues into Spanish.	none	Continue providing technical assistance to VOA.	Africa module on AMR, HIV, TV, and malaria Reporter's notebook including a glossary of terms and regionally relevant AMR topics	The reporter's guide is now translated into spanish and a glossary has been developed.

Last Updated: 08/02/2005

Workplan: Antimicrobial Resistance **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop an AMR Module for Use by the Demographic and Health Survey

Activity Manager Joshi, Mohan **Activity #** 7 **Task:** A1WW04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60F1E7

Activity Description The planned activity is two-fold. One component is to produce an "AMR module" to specifically address antimicrobial use and AMR, which will become a DHS module. The second component is the development of specific antimicrobial/AMR related questions for inclusion in the DHS' Service Provision Assessment, which aims to evaluate the healthcare services offered.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The draft AMR module for the DHS underwent significant review and commentary by members of CPM. The revised draft AMR module was shared with ORC Macro along with a draft table of indicators to accompany the module. The AMR team (Mohan Joshi, Sarah Paige, and Niranjan Konduri) visited ORC/Macro on May 24, 2005. There they met with Ani Hyslop and Luis Ochoa to work further on the AMR module.	none	Further revise the indicators to reflect the purpose of the AMR module. Share the revised indicators with ORC/Macro and then revisit the draft questionnaire.	AMR module	Indicators have been developed and the questionnaire is under revision.

Last Updated: 08/02/2005

Workplan: Antimicrobial Resistance **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop a User's Guide Describing AMR Resources Available on the Internet

Activity Manager Paige, Sarah **Activity #** 9 **Task:** A1WW04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60GXF9

Activity Description This activity, which will be done in collaboration with APUA, plans to design and develop a guide on the AMR resources available on the Internet. The proposed web-based activity will include Internet addresses, and brief descriptions of AMR sites developed and maintained by major and reputable bodies. A set of criteria to filter out non-credible resouces will be used to select the web sites. The criteria will also be included in the guide. The document will be developed utilizing APUA's expertise. Once completed the guide will be posted on the APUA and RPM Plus websites. The guide will be periodically revised and updated in subsequent workplan years to accommodate the suggestions/comments received from users of the first edition and to include the future additions/changes of information appearing on the web.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	A timeline for the development of the AMR internet guide, its objectives, and site inclusion criteria have been submitted by APUA and approved. Production of the guide about the AMR resources on the Internet is about 70% completed in spite of delay due to staff resignation.	Key personnel resigned her position at APUA	APUA will continue to gather and review AMR websites.	Web-based information resource	Production of the guide about the AMR resources on the Internet is about 70% completed in spite of delay due to staff resignation.

Last Updated: 08/15/2005

Workplan: Antimicrobial Resistance **Year** 04

Activity Title Improve Pharmaceutical Management through Training of Trainers course on Promoting Rational Drug Use

Activity Manager Chalker, John **Activity #** 10 **Task:** A1WW04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60EXM0

Activity Description RPM Plus intends to support the training program and stage a PRDU course in Namibia in Yr 5. The course will include the TOT module. MSH/Namibia will collaborate with the AMR Portfolio and also leverage additional funding for the course.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The PRDU/TOT in Namibia was successfully carried out from April 18th to 30th 2005.. Thirty five participants attended. The local MSH office took the lead on planning and staging activities. Support for the course came from USAID, the President's Emergency Plan and the World Health Organization. All participants of last years' PRDU/TOT course in Kenya have been contacted to find out if any changes occurred as a result of the course. A preliminary report has been compiled. So far more than 20 of the 36 participants have responded. The results have been compiled onto a draft spreadsheet awaiting finalization.	none	Provide follow up assistance to past PRDU course participants.	Trip Report	Trip report (Chalker John, Joshi M, Aboagye-Nyame F, 2005. Trip Report: Okahandja, Namibia PRDU Course, April 2005. Submitted to the U.S. Agency for International Development by the Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus Program. Alrington, VA: Management Sciences for Health.) Draft Kenya achievement report

Last Updated: 08/02/2005

Workplan: Antimicrobial Resistance **Year** 04

Activity Title Support Implementation of Research Agenda Identified by ICIUM 2004

Activity Manager Chalker, John **Activity #** 12 **Task:** A1WW04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60EXHC

Activity Description The research agenda recommendations generated by ICIUM 2004 will provide guidance and direction for support of further research engaged in filling knowledge gaps in methods of improving antimicrobial drug use among providers and communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America. With RPM Plus as a partner, this initiative will continue to build capacity of local groups to conduct operations research and implement interventions promoting the rational use of antimicrobials. RPM Plus will provide email assistance, and, along with other collaborators, provide technical assistance to select groups. RPM Plus will plan to fund some of the proposals, particularly those with an AMR and antimicrobial use focus.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	This follow-on activity to last year's International Conference on Improving the Use of Medicines aims to build research capacity and AMR knowledge in low resource settings. This work is in line with previous efforts to support developing country researchers. Currently, the AMR portfolio is funding two research projects that involve the community in containing AMR. Vietnam The interventions have been initiated and report submitted. For the coming six months the interventions will be completed and the evaluation will take place in early 2006. Thailand; Progress report for the final phase of the Thai study: Involvement of civil society in a strategy to reduce the use of antibiotic in the treatment for adults with upper respiratory infections from viral origins at the household and community levels: A comparison study in congested community, Bangkok, Thailand- has been received.	All post ICIUM initiatives that have been planned have so far not been agreed.	Towards the end of the year Dr Chalker will visit the project in Vietnam to monitor progress and help plan the evaluation. He will also review the project in Bangkok.	Plan of action for post ICIUM research. Reports of at least 2 research projects	none

Last Updated: 08/02/2005

Workplan: Antimicrobial Resistance **Year** 04

Activity Title Publication and Dissemination of the 2005 GAARD Report

Activity Manager Joshi, Mohan **Activity #** 13 **Task:** A1WW04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60F1FB

Activity Description The GAARD Report"Shadow Epidemic: The Growing Menace of Drug Resistance" combines findings from diverse surveillance systems run by the world's leading infectious disease experts tracking resistance around the world and provides a comprehensive view of drug resistance patterns across the major infectious diseases. The document focuses on the most troubling and urgent infectious disease threats whose cures are imperiled by the problem of resistance. APUA will coordinate the publication of the report and will develop a dissemination plan. Additionally, it will develop plan for congressional briefing. The report will also be posted on the web.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	APUA is partnering with RPM Plus to lead this activity. In this quarter, the bulk of the activity was completed. APUA 1. Coordinated and edited manuscript 2. Completed and submitted GAARD manuscript to the Clinical of Infectious Disease Journal for publication 3. Organized congressional staff briefing for July 19, 2005 4. Informed worldwide discussion group subscribers about the GAARD Report	none	none- activity complete	2005 GAARD report	none

Last Updated: 08/02/2005

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Assist GDF in expediting response to DOTS expansion

Activity Manager Vrakking, Hugo **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1WW04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60F3H2

Activity Description In the second half of 2004, the GDF requested specific assistance from RPM Plus in establishing procedures for countries in transition to patient kits, and in development of a list of diagnostic commodities that could be potentially supplied by the GDF. The work on patient kits was initiated in Kenya; the options for diagnostic kits have been developed.

With the FY04 funds, RPM Plus will continue its assistance to the GDF, including the following activities:

- RPM Plus will continue secondment of a procurement officer to the GDF;
- RPM Plus will conduct up to 8 monitoring and survey mission to the GDF recipient countries, and during these missions provide direct technical assistance to countries in improving TB drug management;
- RPM Plus will conduct up to 6 desk audits of monitoring and WHO reports from the recipient countries;
- RPM Plus will field-test implementation of the GDF diagnostic kits in one of African countries, and present the results in a paper;

These are ongoing activities that will be conducted during 1 – 4 quarters of the RPM Plus Year 5

Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Assist GDF in expediting response to DOTS expansion

Project Year 5 Q3

An RPM Plus TB expert attended the GDF 11th Technical Review Committee (TRC) meeting in Geneva this quarter.

MSH/RPM Plus provided technical assistance to the GDF by conducting a field test of the TB laboratory diagnostic kit in Tajikistan.

MSH/RPM Plus conducted four GDF monitoring missions country monitoring missions in Kenya, Moldova and Congo Brazzaville and Egypt.

MSH/RPM Plus audited GDF monitoring mission reports for two countries.

RPM Plus continues the secondment of a procurement specialist to the GDF.

Last Updated: 07/11/2005

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Provide technical leadership in TB pharmaceutical management to WHO and StopTB partners

Activity Manager Moore, Thomas **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1WW04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60CXH3

Activity Description RPM Plus will use the opportunity provided by the IUATLD World Congresses to reach a broad audience of international TB community to promote TB drug management through conducting a TB drug management workshop. The main goals of this workshop will be to: present successes in TB pharmaceutical management in various country programs; provide steps on how to obtain TB medicines through various international mechanisms such as Global TB Drug Facility, Green Light Committee and Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria; discuss how packaging of TB drugs can effect positive outcomes; demonstrate how programs can monitor TB pharmaceutical management elements of their programs to promote availability of medicines.

RPM Plus will participate in annual meetings, and serve as a technical resource for Stop TB and the WHO DOTS Plus group, DOTS Expansion Working Group, and the WHO Interagency Coordinating Committee, and will respond to requests and provide technical input to the USAID TB team and USAID missions on issues related to pharmaceutical management for tuberculosis.

These are ongoing activities that will be conducted during 1 – 4 quarters of the RPM Plus Year 5

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	An RPM Plus TB expert attended the 11th meeting of TB Training and Education Collaborative for WHO European Region held in Copenhagen, Denmark. A presentation was made on the capacity and experience of RPM Plus in pharmaceutical management and TB training.				

Last Updated: 07/11/2005

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop TB Drug Management Guide for GDF and GLC recipient countries and National TB Programs

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1WW04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60F3E4

Activity Description RPM Plus will assemble a team of people with the knowledge of pharmaceutical and TB program management and develop the Guide. The Guide will provide a simple practical step-by-step approach to establishing management systems that will allow to properly quantify drug needs, procure and order medicines, properly store, rationally use them, and monitor. The Guide will be field-tested in one of the GDF and/or GLC countries.

This is a new activity. It will take place during 1 – 3 quarters of the RPM Plus Year 5

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The TB drug management guide has been translated to Spanish and is currently been reviewed.		This activity is on-going.		

Last Updated: 07/11/2005

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Assist GLC in establishing pharmaceutical management programs at DOTS Plus pilots

Activity Manager Moore, Thomas **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1WW04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60F3P5

Activity Description In FY04, RPM Plus will Conduct a Pharmaceutical Management for MDR TB Course for the WHO EMRO. This course will leverage with KNCV program in that region.

RPM Plus will field-test the GLC tracking tool, and prepare for implementation in one of the GLC DOTS Plus sites. The tool will then be prepared for dissemination. This activity will leverage with RPM Plus program in Moldova funded through USAID E&E Bureau and the mission.

These are ongoing activities that will be conducted during 1 – 4 quarters of the RPM Plus Year 5

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM Plus conducted a training course on TB pharmaceutical management in Cairo Egypt where 16 participants from 7 countries attended. The training course was conducted in collaboration WHO EMRO, KNCV Netherlands, GDF, GLC and NTP Egypt.				

Last Updated: 07/11/2005

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop TB drug management skills of WHO and StopTB consultants

Activity Manager Zagorskiy, Andrey **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1WW04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60CXH6

Activity Description In FY04, RPM Plus will train international consultants on TB drug management at strategic WHO Courses for consultants and NTP managers. RPM Plus will continue its support to the well established annual WHO/KNCV Course for TB Managers (Warsaw) and three WHO Courses for TB Consultants in Sondalo, Italy.

RPM Plus will serve as a technical resource and conduct training sessions for USAID-funded CAs, TB partners, and PVOs based in the US to build their understanding of role and implications of pharmaceutical management in DOTS programs. Upon request, RPM Plus will develop/adapt and conduct relevant training sessions, and provide technical advice/expertise for improving the drug management components of their programs. RPM Plus will utilize a variety of training modules, presentations, and case studies that have been developed during the life of the program.

These are ongoing activities that will be conducted during 1 – 4 quarters of the RPM Plus Year 5

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM plus pharmaceutical management specialist facilitated sessions on TB pharmaceutical management for the WHO consultants course in Sondolo, Italy				

Last Updated: 07/11/2005

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Maintain RPM Plus TB Drug Management website

Activity Manager Beith, Alexandra **Activity #** 7 **Task:** A1WW04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60GXJ7

Activity Description RPM Plus will continue to maintain its TB pharmaceutical management web site, adding new tools that have been finalized and updating the existing ones.

This is an ongoing activity that will be conducted during 1 – 4 quarters of the RPM Plus Year 5

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	During this quarter, there was ongoing maintenance of the RPM Plus web pages.		This activity is ongoing.		

Last Updated: 07/11/2005

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Increase capacity of Global initiatives to evaluate and monitor TB drug management in high-burden countries

Activity Manager Moore, Thomas **Activity #** 8 **Task:** A1WW04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60F3I8

Activity Description In FY04, RPM Plus will develop TB drug management consultancy capacity for the Global Drug Facility and GLC through the focused training of selected WHO and StopTB partners' TB consultants. RPM Plus will respond to the request made by the GDF to improve the quality of the WHO TB consultants currently working for the GDF and thereby increase the strength of the current consultant pool. The training will be based on RPM Plus's experience with TB drug management assessments in the GDF countries. This activity will be leveraged with regional WHO bureaus.

This is a new activity. It will take place during 2-4 quarters of the RPM Plus Year 5

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM Plus communicated with WHO WPRO and WHO SEARO to establish a date for a proposed course to train consultants on pharmaceutical management for GDF monitoring missions. The discussions addressed level of support for participants by collaborating organizations among other things. A tentative date and location for the course has been determined; November 2005 in Hanoi Vietnam.				

Last Updated: 07/11/2005

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Strengthen the capacity of country and global partners in improving TB program performance through the use of incentives and

Activity Manager Mookherji, Sangeeta **Activity #** 9 **Task:** A1WW04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60E4G9

Activity Description During FY04 RPM Plus will continue to analyze and assess findings from operations research studies (both those stimulated by our work and others) to determine what further evidence there is on the impact of incentives and enablers in TB control and its relevance to achieving TB control objectives. This will primarily be through continued synthesis and documentation of findings, and dissemination and presentation at international venues. These FY04 activities will also contribute to preparation for an anticipated third workshop following IUATLD 2005, at which the team expects to be able to present concrete findings and policy recommendations regarding the use of incentives and enablers in TB control.

This is an ongoing activity that will be conducted during 1 – 4 quarters of the RPM Plus Year 5

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	MSH/RPM Plus attended the annual Stop TB Public-Private Mix (PPM) DOTS sub-group meeting in Manila, Philippines. RPM Plus contributed to the section on I&E for PPM global guidelines document. RPM Plus developed a survey for I&E schemes that was sent to 54 I&E projects and programs of which 33 were follow-up from 2001, 2003, and 2004. Analysis of the survey responses is underway. The RPM Plus report from 2003 workshop on “Evaluating I&E for TB control” is undergoing final editing.	Continued difficulty regarding product ownership and production with partner Activity team reduced dramatically from 1.5 FTEs to 0.5 FTE and 1 consultant specifically for IUATLD activities	Planning for IUATLD events Continued analysis of survey responses		

Last Updated: 07/11/2005

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Promote use of patient kits and FDCs in TB control programs

Activity Manager Moore, Thomas **Activity #** 10 **Task:** A1WW04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60E3H0

Activity Description In FY04, RPM Plus will develop change-over training materials, research and build evidence from the field for the promotion and use of FDCs and patient kits in national TB programs. RPM Plus will develop a tool, and conduct an in-country survey to evaluate impact of FDCs and patient kits on TB program performance. The survey will be conducted in selected GDF countries that have switched to FDCs and patient kits to collect evidence of the challenges and benefits. The findings will be discussed and disseminated at an international TB forum. This activity will build on and contribute to efforts by the WHO to promote use of FDCs in TB programs.

This is a new activity which will be conducted during 2 – 4 quarters of the RPM Plus Year 5

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	An RPM Plus TB pharmaceutical management specialist visited Kenya to conduct a brief assessment of phase one TB patient kit implementation in collaboration with local counterparts. The assessment analyzed the strengths and weaknesses of the implementation plan; providing options to strengthen the current strategy before roll out				

Last Updated: 07/11/2005

Workplan: Tuberculosis **Year** 04

Activity Title Investigate the evidence for integrating TB and HIV/AIDS commodity management programs

Activity Manager Moore, Thomas **Activity #** 11 **Task:** A1WW04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60F2GA

Activity Description RPM Plus will develop a concept paper and scope of work for the study; a review team will then conduct a desktop research of how the integration issues are addressed in selected countries; the team will develop a tool for collecting data on TB – HIV program integration, and collect these data in the field; RPM Plus will then produce a report and present findings at a regional meeting in one of selected African countries. The potential countries for this activity are Ethiopia, Zambia, Malawi, and South Africa.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	During this quarter, RPM Plus finalized the study protocol for TB/HIV collaboration and interview guide for data collection. Initial planning for conducting the study in selected countries has begun. A consultant has been identified to conduct the study in Brazil. Planning for this activity is ongoing.				

Last Updated: 07/11/2005

Workplan: Common Agenda **Year** 03

Activity Title Donor coordination

Activity Manager Holland, Ross **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1WW03CAX **Sub-Task:** 60A2H6

Activity Description Various.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	During this quarter RPM Plus has been involved in a collaborative effort with WHO in the development of a handbook of supply management at first-line health facilities. This is part of the effort by the WHO HIV TB and Malaria cluster/HIV department (HTM/HIV) - AIDS Medicines and Diagnostics Services (AMDS) to complete the Integrated Management of Adult and Adolescent Illness (IMAAI) project. This handbook was based on an earlier WHO/Basics IMCI training program in Drug Supply Management (1996). RPM Plus contributed to the review working group and responsible for the first draft of the revised document, including the writing of two new sections on Preparing for a New or Expanded Service and Ordering for a New or Expanded Service.		It is anticipated that after final review the handbook will be available in about 6 week's time.		

Last Updated: 06/23/2005

Workplan: Africa Bureau/Child Survival **Year** 02

Activity Title Investigating commodity management in TB/HIV Programs

Activity Manager McCollum, Jennifer **Activity #** 9 **Task:** A1AB02CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F2G9

Activity Description RPM Plus to design a study to investigate commodity management in support of TB/HIV collaboration. RPM Plus will describe the implementation of TB/HIV collaborative activities in selected countries and investigate how pharmaceutical management has been addressed in policies, working documents and practice.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Study Outline and Interview Guide have been finalized pending any additional comments after being used in the field. Discussions have taken place with MSH staff in Brazil, Kenya and Zambia to determine who might be best suited to execute Phase One of the interview guide. The study outline and interview guide have been sent to Joel Keravec with MSH Brazil to begin the process there.	MSH Kenya and Zambia have asked that someone from RPM Plus DC travel to country to gather the required information with a national counterpart but funds are far too limited to allow for travel costs. Alternate strategies need to be explored to determine who might be able to effectively get the needed information without too much additional cost.	Devise strategy for acquiring information in Zambia and Kenya without exceeding budget - by the end of FY04.		

Last Updated: 07/27/2005

Workplan: Africa Bureau/Child Survival **Year** 03

Activity Title Collaboration and TA to AFRO to advocate for improving drug management in support of child survival

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1AB03CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F6H2

Activity Description

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The Mozambique data analysis was conducted and a final report prepared.	RPM Plus was on standby at several points (data analysis, presentation of report) while awaiting progress/feedback from AFRO.	Follow up with the Mozambique team to ensure the DMCI results are disseminated with the rest of the IMCI facility survey results. Contribute a DMCI results section to the WHO Malawi IMCI facility survey final report. Follow up with WHO AFRO on the use of the C-DMCI in the C-IMCI situational analysis, as well as use of other RPM Plus tools and materials.		

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: Africa Bureau/Child Survival **Year** 03

Activity Title Offer assistance to IRC to conduct a Community DMCI assessment in Rwanda

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1WW03CHS **Sub-Task:** 60EXA3

Activity Description Many PVOs are implementing community child health activities and several have already approached RPM Plus for technical assistance to improve drug management at community level. The International Rescue Committee in Rwanda is one such PVO project interested. It is proposed that RPM Plus will provide technical assistance to IRC in Rwanda to conduct a community DMCI assessment and to develop appropriate interventions to improve the availability and use of drugs in the community. This activity will link well with the RPM Plus activities in the area of HIV/AIDS and PMTCT, demonstrating RPM Plus' commitment to strengthening child health services alongside implementation of PMTCT, as well as being supportive of the work of the RPM Plus malaria portfolio in home-based management of malaria. It is expected that additional finances will be leveraged from the Mission and the IRC project for this activity.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Traveled to Rwanda to discuss collaboration with PVOs. Probable activities include using an adapted form of the C-DMCI to assess availability of cotrimoxazole in the community and review and have input into the baseline assessment tools of partners. Met with BASICS and IRC to discuss specific collaboration in Rwanda.		Follow up with partners in Rwanda and give input to baseline survey tools.		

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: Africa Bureau/Child Survival **Year** 04

Activity Title Private Sector Forum

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1AB04CHS **Sub-Task:** 60A2M2

Activity Description Enhance access to medicines in selected African countries through private sector strategies

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The final draft of the private sector toolkit has been received for review for the SARA project. Preparations for the Africa forum are being made and reviewed.		Complete the final review of tool kit. Mobilize presenters for forum. Prepare presentations for the forum.		

Last Updated: 09/30/2005

Workplan: Africa Bureau/Child Survival **Year** 04

Activity Title Continued collaboration with AFRO

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1AB04CHS **Sub-Task:** 60F6H3

Activity Description Promote and plan pharmaceutical management by regional AFRO and the country offices

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No activity during this quarter.				

Last Updated: 09/07/2005

Workplan: Africa Bureau/TB **Year** 04

Activity Title Implement patient kit monitoring system

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1AB04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60EXH2

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide support to the national TB control program in monitoring results of the TB patient kit system which was implemented in 2004. Results will not only be used by the national program to improve weak areas of pharmaceutical management but will also be disseminated to other national programs in the ECSA region as lessons learned.

Through local program collaborators, RPM Plus will provide technical assistance in developing a comprehensive monitoring system for TB patient kit use. The kits provide all TB drugs needed for a full course of treatment for a single patient in an individualized container and have many advantages such as: allow the patient to know the drugs will be available when needed, promote adherence to the national standardized regimen and facilitate distribution and stock management since only one stock item needs to be handled.

The national program has some funding to begin the monitoring system but RPM Plus will provide assistance in developing the monitoring checklists and methodology for data collection, training of monitors and system implementation in one region. Based on initial results the checklists and methodology will be modified and applied throughout the other areas of Kenya using both RPM Plus funds as planned and national TB program funds.

Study findings will be disseminated to other ECSA countries, the WHO/AFRO office and through regional and national TB meetings.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	? Prepared first draft of study protocol and national study coordinator and RPM Plus activity managers approved final version ? First phase of study: training of data collectors and data monitors was finished in May.				

Last Updated: 04/10/2006

Workplan: Africa Bureau/TB **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop and conduct follow-on activities in TB pharmaceutical management

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1AB04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60F3H4

Activity Description Through this activity RPM Plus plans to develop and conduct a workshop to discuss outcomes from previous courses and provide technical assistance for any problems encountered in these areas. Another outcome will be feedback from participants on components of TB pharmaceutical management where future capacity building activities should be carried out.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Sent 2nd email to participants where email addresses were confirmed to be okay inviting them once again to the planned "impact-finding" workshop. Began discussion of workshop design	Many of the email addresses were returned by respective email servers stating they were in error	Receive feedback from participants willing to participant in the planned "impact-finding" workshop. Continue design of workshop		

Last Updated: 04/10/2006

Workplan: Asia Near East Bureau **Year** 02

Activity Title South Asia Regional Workshop on the Use of Incentives in TB Control.

Activity Manager Mookherji, Sangeeta **Activity #** 8 **Task:** A1RN02IDX **Sub-Task:** 60E4M0

Activity Description The workshop will bring together senior NTP managers and representatives of NGOs active in TB control to identify key problems and incentive/enabler solutions that can be considered to address the underlying causes of the identified problems. The workshop will conclude with the development of plans of action to introduce incentives and an evaluation plan using sound research methods.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Remaining funding for this activity will be used to support regional participation in a global workshop to be held 23 October 2005, with an ANE regional working group.	None	Continue workshop preparations.		

Last Updated: 06/15/2005

Workplan: Asia Near East Bureau **Year** 03

Activity Title Participate in ANE related meetings with partners and donors

Activity Manager Duzey, Olya **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1RN03IDX **Sub-Task:** 60EXN2

Activity Description The malaria activity in the Mekong regions is one of the best examples of effective collaboration. This is largely due to the emphasis on coordination of activities and information sharing throughout the first four years of RPM Plus involvement among the Mekong partners and donors. It is anticipated that further effective collaboration will result from continued meetings and activities.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Activity completed				

Last Updated: 08/01/2005

Workplan: Asia Near East Bureau **Year** 03

Activity Title Provide TA to ACT Malaria to develop a course module on how to conduct a malaria community drug management study

Activity Manager Duzey, Olya **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1RN03IDX **Sub-Task:** 60E4H6

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide technical assistance to ACTMalaria for developing a course on how to conduct a malaria community drug management study

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No activity during this quarter	None			

Last Updated: 10/09/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean IDI for AMR **Year** 03

Activity Title Conduct a second Regional Workshop on Introduction of Standard Treatment Guidelines for Infectious Diseases in Hospital Settings

Activity Manager Paredes, Patricia **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1LN03AMR **Sub-Task:** 60EXM2

Activity Description RPM Plus proposes to conduct a second regional workshop on The Introduction of STGs to Hospital Settings. The workshop program involves working on data from the participants' hospitals that point out the problems in antimicrobial use. Participants receive hands-on training on reviewing scientific evidence in order to make an informed judgment of the current guidelines available and of the ones produced by PAHO.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Activity pending, scheduled for October 2005.				

Last Updated: 08/04/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean IDI for AMR **Year** 03

Activity Title Conduct a workshop on data analysis to assess the effect of introducing treatment guidelines in hospital settings

Activity Manager Paredes, Patricia **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1LN03AMR **Sub-Task:** 60EXM4

Activity Description RPM Plus plans to conduct a workshop to assist country researchers in analyzing their data and writing the results in a consistent and publishable manner.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Activity pending completion of Activity 2, scheduled for October 2005.				

Last Updated: 08/04/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean IDI for AMR **Year** 03

Activity Title Review of available tools to control hospital infection at primary care maternity clinics

Activity Manager Paredes, Patricia **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1LN03AMR **Sub-Task:** 60E3G6

Activity Description RPM Plus will review currently available tools that focus on preventing hospital infection for rural and primary care settings. Some tools such as the existing instrument developed under the Peru USAID Mission-funded Vigia Project, and the program for hospital infection prevention developed by Harvard University and the American International Health Alliance for RPM Plus under USAID BGH funds will also be reviewed. Aspects that are pertinent to district and primary level of care will be highlighted and adapted to be used at these levels.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Activity pending.				

Last Updated: 08/04/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean HSR **Year** 03

Activity Title Revision and publication of framework to guide the analysis of the effects of health sector reform on pharmaceutical supply.

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1LN03HSR **Sub-Task:** 60A2G2

Activity Description The conceptual framework and methodology used to guide the analysis of the effects of health sector reform on pharmaceutical supply will be revised based on the results of their application in two countries programmed with previous year's funds. A revised version of the framework and the country cases will be published according to the publication guidelines of the HSR Initiative.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The conceptual framework have been finalized and will be sent to USAID and to the LAC HSRI countries before the end of July, 2005.	The elaboration of the final reports on the effects of HSR on pharmaceutical management in Ecuador en Guatemala, expected by mid June, was delayed because of a medical strike and political instability (including the removal of some MoH authorities) in Ecuador, and because the USAID Mission in Guatemala requested for a revision of the first draft of the document. Since the elaboration of the final version of the conceptual framework depended on both case studies (Ecuador en Guatemala), it was delayed, as well.			

Last Updated: 07/06/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean HSR **Year** 03

Activity Title Finalize framework publication and country analysis and publications

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 7 **Task:** A1LN03HSR **Sub-Task:** 60A2H7

Activity Description The conceptual framework and methodology used to guide the analysis of the effects of health sector reform on pharmaceutical supply will be revised based on the results of their application in two countries programmed with previous year's funds. A revised version of the framework and the country cases will be published according to the publication guidelines of the HSR Initiative.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The the two case studies (Guatemala and Ecuador) have been finalized and will be sent to USAID and to the LAC HSRI countries before the end of July, 2005.	The elaboration of the final reports on the effects of HSR on pharmaceutical management in Ecuador en Guatemala, expected by mid June, was delayed because of a medical strike and political instability (including the removal of some MoH authorities) in Ecuador, and because the USAID Mission in Guatemala requested for a revision of the first draft of the document. Since the elaboration of the final version of the conceptual framework depended on both case studies (Ecuador en Guatemala), it was delayed, as well.			

Last Updated: 07/06/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean SAIDI **Year** 04

Activity Title Conduct pre-assessments in initiative countries

Activity Manager Yeager, Beth **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1LN04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60F1A2

Activity Description During the months of December to March RPM Plus and USPDQI will visit each country involved and introduce the initiative to government officials, USAID missions where appropriate, PAHO representations, and other potential cooperating agencies. During the visit, discussions of specific interests to the country and particular regions or administrative jurisdictions that assessments will cover will be explored and identified.

If possible sources of data already available will be identified and potential in-country partners or collaborators will also be visited or at least inventoried.

The product of the pre-assessment visits will be reports to the Steering Committee that will serve as basis for the design of a more appropriate focused rapid assessment of the antimicrobial resistance determinants in each country.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	SAIDI partners conducted a pre-assessment visit to Bolivia May 9 – 13. During the assessment visit, partners met with national stakeholders to determine their interest in participating in the initiative and to ask for their opinions and suggestions as to the possible contributing factors to AMR in Bolivia and the intervention strategies that could be used to address these issues.	None	None		

Last Updated: 08/04/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean SAIDI **Year** 04

Activity Title Participate in the design of and conduct rapid assessments in initiative countries

Activity Manager Yeager, Beth **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1LN04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60F1H3

Activity Description Depending on available funds, RPM Plus will participate with other partners in the rapid assessment activities in the three countries. The assessment plan will be determined based on the results of pre-assessment in each country and in coordination with the other partners.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM Plus and SAIDI partners USP and PAHO began assessment activities in Paraguay, June 13 – 23. RPM Plus in collaboration with national partners, trained 10 pharmacy students for data collection in a study of the use of antibiotics in health facilities in Asuncion. RPM Plus also worked with coordinators and study teams from 5 hospitals in Asuncion to collect data on the use of antibiotics in hospitals. Data collection will finish in July. RPM Plus met with SAIDI national partners in Peru to discuss what activities had been completed thus far and to develop a work plan for the next quarter.	None	Return to Paraguay for final analysis of study data. Continue to coordinate with SAIDI-Peru and discuss their proposal with SAIDI international partners in the July meeting.		

Last Updated: 08/04/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean SAIDI **Year** 04

Activity Title Participate in meetings with SAIDI partners

Activity Manager Yeager, Beth **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1LN04AMR **Sub-Task:** 60F1N4

Activity Description This activity includes travel for meetings in particular countries, with national SAIDI partners, time of staff involved in these meetings (preparation, attendance, and post meeting activities), and regular steering committee meetings with international SAIDI partners.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM Plus met with individual parnters as required for preparation of the pre-assessment and assessment visits. The next SAIDI parnters meeting is scheduled for mid-July.				

Last Updated: 08/04/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean IDI for TB **Year** 04

Activity Title Adaptation and translation of guidelines for decision making process

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1LN04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60F2E2

Activity Description RPM Plus proposed to use USAID's LAC Regional Bureau resources for the translation and dissemination of this material. Since resources are limited, the dissemination strategies will piggy back on other activities already programmed by RPM Plus and other partners such as:

•Country visits to provide technical assistance to countries may provide an opportunity to discuss the structure and contents of the guide, and the usefulness of its contents for the daily activities of program staff
•Training courses or regional meetings organized by other partners (like the annual Stop TB meeting in the region)
•The RPM Plus website

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The first draft of the English version of the TB Pharmaceutical Management Guidelines was finished by the end of April 2005. This version was translated to Spanish during June 2005. The Spanish version is now in the review, editing and formatting phase.		This first draft will be pilot tested and validated with a selected group of LAC TB managers. The publication should then be ready for reproduction and dissemination around October 2005.		

Last Updated: 07/06/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean IDI for TB **Year** 04

Activity Title Technical assistance to follow up on specific country requirements

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1LN04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60F2H3

Activity Description This work plan includes resources to cover technical assistance missions to two countries in the form of country visits for a period of 10 days each on average. If an in-depth assessment or further technical assistance is needed, RPM Plus will explore with the USAID local mission, or other partners, the availability of financial resources to support the more intense activities in the country.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM Plus has been invited to two events that will provide additional opportunities to coordinate follow up activities with selected LAC countries: a. The Strategic Fund Meeting, Honduras July 11 -14: During this meeting the TB Program in Dominican Republic (DR) will present their experience in the transition to Fixed Dose Combinations and the purchase or TB medicines through the Global Drug Facility. This is an activity that RPM Plus has been supporting in the DR, and may trigger the interest of other TB programs in the region. Using USAID LAC Bureau resources, David Lee, Deputy Director CPM, will attend the meeting. b. RPM Plus has been invited to the First Session of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional TB Program. This meeting will be carried out at PAHO Headquarters in Washington, D.C. on 28-29 July. This will be a good opportunity to identify activities that RPM Plus can carry-out as a joint venture with PAHO.	There were no specific country requirements during this quarter that could have translated into technical assistance from RPM Plus. The Regional Stop TB meeting, originally planned for May 16-18, could have been an opportunity to contact TB coordinators and plan follow up activities, but it was postponed to August 23- 25, 2005.	RPM Plus will participate in the Stop TB meeting (Quito, Ecuador, Augusto 23-25)to follow up on the improvements on pharmaceutical management and challenges that may require RPM Plus technical assistance.		

Last Updated: 08/03/2005

Workplan: Latin America Caribbean IDI for TB **Year** 04

Activity Title Dissemination of meeting results

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1LN04TBX **Sub-Task:** 60G2N4

Activity Description Resources will be used to produce the final version of the trip report. The most appropriate meeting to present these lessons learned will be the regional stop TB meeting.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No activities programmed during this quarter				

Last Updated: 07/06/2005

Workplan: Malaria (MAC) Core **Year** 04

Activity Title Conduct a regional training workshop (18 participants) on pharmaceutical management for malaria

Activity Manager Shretta, Rima **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1WW04MAC **Sub-Task:** 60F4M5

Activity Description Using the materials developed in FY03, RPM Plus will conduct a five-day regional workshop on pharmaceutical management for malaria for 18 participants. This will highlight issues of procurement, quantification, distribution, inventory control, rational pharmaceutical use, pharmaceutical quality and monitoring and evaluation; all of which are issues that countries must consider in implementing ACTs. The workshop participants will include representatives from the national malaria control programs and pharmacy departments in the ministries of health.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	None				

Last Updated: 04/10/2006

Workplan: Malaria (MAC) Core **Year** 05

Activity Title Develop and field test a training manual for Drug Management for Malaria

Activity Manager Shretta, Rima **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1WW03MAC **Sub-Task:** 60CXC4

Activity Description RPM Plus will develop a training manual for drug management for malaria. This manual will be field tested in one country and modified for use as a result of this field test.

This activity is expected to begin in second quarter of FY03 and continue throughout the year.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	None				

Last Updated: 04/14/2006

Workplan: Malaria (MAC) Core **Year** 05

Activity Title Develop standards for packaging and labeling drugs

Activity Manager Citysoft Admin **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1WW03MAC **Sub-Task:** 60DXH5

Activity Description RPM Plus will work with CDC and USP to develop standards for packaging and labeling of antimalarials drugs.

It is expected that this activity will occur in the second and third quarters of FY0

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	None				

Last Updated: 04/17/2006

Workplan: Malaria (MAC) Core **Year** 05

Activity Title Support drug need quantification in one country

Activity Manager Citysoft Admin **Activity #** 12 **Task:** A1WW03MAC **Sub-Task:** 60C1AB

Activity Description Using methodologies developed during FY02 and FY03, RPM Plus will support quantification of drug needs in one country in Africa. Training for capacity building in this area will be carried out.

This activity will be carried out in the forth quarter of FY03.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	None				

Last Updated: 04/14/2006

RPM Plus Activity and Product Status Report **Selection Criteria:** Reporting Year = Project Year 5 AND Reporting Quarter = Q3

Workplan: Malaria (MAC) Core **Year** 05

Activity Title Technical Assistance for drug management in Tanzania

Activity Manager Shretta, Rima **Activity #** 13 **Task:** A1WW03MAC **Sub-Task:** 60F4HC

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide TA to Tanzania for drug management for malaria.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	None				

Last Updated: 04/14/2006

Workplan: Malaria (MAC) Core **Year** 05

Activity Title TA for a rapid assessment of current drug use in Nigeria

Activity Manager Tetteh, Gladys **Activity #** 16 **Task:** A1WW03MAC **Sub-Task:** 60F4AF

Activity Description RPM Plus with support from WHO will provide TA for this activity. The purpose of the rapid assessment is to determine how the current antimalarial policy is being implemented within the public and private sectors of Nigeria and what local factors might influence the choice of replacement antimalarial therapy. The rapid assessment will utilize both quantitative and qualitative methods of study.

This activity is expected to occur during the second quarter of FY03

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Assessment report completed. Activity completed.				

Last Updated: 04/14/2006

Workplan: West Africa Regional (WARP) **Year** 03

Activity Title Field support to the WARP/USAID and AWARE HIV/AIDS project

Activity Manager Ndyanabangi, Bannet **Activity #** 1 **Task:** A1RA03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60F2H3

Activity Description Assessing and strengthening pharmaceutical management systems in support of HIV/AIDS programs within West Africa, in collaboration with the Action for West Africa (AWARE) – HIV/AIDS

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No progress this quarter	None	Talks to continue with USAID and Global Fund on using the field support funds to provide technical assistance to Francophone West African countries, to enable them to finalize their procurement, supply and management plans in their Global Fund proposals		

Last Updated: 08/03/2005

Workplan: West Africa Regional (WARP) **Year** 04

Activity Title Participation and facilitation at the GFATM workshop for Francophone West and Central African countries in Dakar, Senegal

Activity Manager Ndyanabangi, Bannet **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1RA04HIV **Sub-Task:** 60CXN2

Activity Description RPM Plus, at the request of USAID, will be among the presenting organizations in the panel discussions on technical assistance to the Global Fund and procurement and supply management. Initial contacts with CCMs, PRs, Fund Portfolio Managers (FPMs) from Geneva and Local Fund Agents (LFAs) in Francophone countries, as well as international partners which also support GFATM implementation, will facilitate subsequent TA efforts with specific countries or groups of countries.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	In Quarter three of FY04, RPM Plus facilitated at Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria sub regional workshop for 11 Francophone West African countries The workshop was attended by representatives of Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) and Principal Recipients (PR). The main objective of the workshop was to accelerate the implementation process of programs with an emphasis on: - clarifying roles and responsibilities of the different partners and stakeholders involved at country level. - Discussing constraints or issues related to Procurement, Monitoring and Evaluation and Technical Assistance RPM Plus, at the request of USAID was among the presenting organizations in the panel discussions on technical assistance to the Global Fund and procurement and supply management. Trip report on outcome of workshop is available.	None	Preparation for the technical meeting of Francophone West African countries in collaboration with GFATM to develop and finalize the Procurement and Supply Management (PSM) workplans, which will take place in November 2005.		

Last Updated: 08/04/2005

Workplan: MAC-Field Support-REDSO **Year** 03

Activity Title Technical assistance to REDSO for drug management for malaria

Activity Manager Citysoft Admin **Activity #** 1 **Task:** A1RD03MAC **Sub-Task:** 60F4HX

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide TA to the REDSO Mission for drug management activities in the region. This activity will be carried out using existing funds from FY.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	None				

Last Updated: 04/17/2006

Workplan: MAC-Field Support-REDSO **Year** 04

Activity Title Conduct regional malaria drug quantification training course

Activity Manager Tetteh, Gladys **Activity #** 1 **Task:** A1RD04MAC **Sub-Task:** 60C1M1

Activity Description As a step to reviewing and improving the pharmaceutical and commodity management systems to ensure that these antimalarials are consistently available in public and private sectors in the region, RPM Plus will conduct a regional workshop in malaria drug quantification in Nairobi, Kenya for malaria program managers and essential drugs programs in the region.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Planning for regional training of trainers in Antimalarial Quantification. Finalization of workshop material development.	Initially planned for July 18-22, 2005 but postponed on account of RPM Plus training targeting some of expected particpants. Postponed till September 19-23, 2005.	Continued preparations.		

Last Updated: 10/05/2005

Workplan: MAC-Field Support-REDSO **Year** 04

Activity Title Conduct regional malaria drug quantification training course

Activity Manager Citysoft Admin **Activity #** 1 **Task:** A1RD04MAC **Sub-Task:** 60C1M1

Activity Description As a step to reviewing and improving the pharmaceutical and commodity management systems to ensure that these antimalarials are consistently available in public and private sectors in the region, RPM Plus will conduct a regional workshop in malaria drug quantification in Nairobi, Kenya for malaria program managers and essential drugs programs in the region.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Planning for regional training of trainers in Antimalarial Quantification. Finalization of workshop material development.	Initially planned for July 18-22, 2005 but postponed on account of RPM Plus training targeting some of expected particpants. Postponed till September 19-23, 2005.	Continued preparations.		

Last Updated: 04/10/2006

Workplan: MAC-Field Support-REDSO **Year** 04

Activity Title Country level follow up and technical support on quantification following the regional quantification training

Activity Manager Tetteh, Gladys **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1RD04MAC **Sub-Task:** 60C1H2

Activity Description As a result of the regional quantification workshop, RPM Plus will follow up with countries in the region and provide technical assistance as needed for quantification of antimalarials and consolidation of consumption records.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Regional Quantification Training planned for fourth quarter. To be followed by country level follow up and provision of technical support by RPM Plus.		Planning for Regional Quantification Training.		

Last Updated: 10/05/2005

Workplan: MAC-Field Support-REDSO **Year** 04

Activity Title Country level follow up and technical support on quantification following the regional quantification training

Activity Manager Citysoft Admin **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1RD04MAC **Sub-Task:** 60C1H2

Activity Description As a result of the regional quantification workshop, RPM Plus will follow up with countries in the region and provide technical assistance as needed for quantification of antimalarials and consolidation of consumption records.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Regional Quantification Training planned for fourth quarter. To be followed by country level follow up and provision of technical support by RPM Plus.		Planning for Regional Quantification Training.		

Last Updated: 04/10/2006

Workplan: REDSO/RLI **Year** 04

Activity Title Provide Technical Assistance to RPF Technical Working Group Activities in collaboration

Activity Manager Kirika, Rosalind **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1RD04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60AXH2

Activity Description RPF intends to develop a generic pharmaceutical policy to act as a gold standard which member states can adapt /draw from to improve their national drug policies. This was rationalized by RPF membership after the realization that most national drug policies (NDPs) within ECSA region were enacted over 10 years ago and had never been systematically updated to reflect current trends. RPM Plus will provide TA to the TWG on the process of how to update NDPs and how to develop a regional model guideline.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM Plus, REDSO and ECSA HC are planning a meeting for all the TWGs, in the last week of August, 2005. Documents to be tabled for discussion are under development.	RPM Plus – ECSA HC to establish a consensually agreed-on scope for each partner for the collaborative effort that the TWGs Meeting will require for successful implementation.	• Determine roles and responsibilities for RPM Plus and for ECSA HC in the Meeting • Develop the Meeting's Agenda, list of Participants, and reference and working documents.		

Last Updated: 07/14/2005

Workplan: REDSO/RLI **Year** 04

Activity Title Support to Regional Malaria Programs for ACT Policy implementation post GFTAM re programming.

Activity Manager Tetteh, Gladys **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1RD04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60F4H3

Activity Description In September 2004, RPM Plus provided technical support to the Global Fund malaria re-programming meeting for ACTs held in Nairobi, Kenya. As follow up to the meeting, RPM Plus will provide technical assistance to national malaria programs and other relevant stakeholders in three ECSA countries (Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania), for their policy implementation activities. A technical document, 'Changing Malaria Treatment Policy to Artemisinin-Based Combinations: An Implementation Guide' which was developed by RPM Plus and used at the meeting, will be disseminated for use by the selected countries. In addition, under REDSO/MAC funding, a quantification workshop is planned for national malaria program managers and essential drugs programs managers, in support of the switch to ACT policy.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	- TA was provided to Tanzania in support of ART Policy implementation. - Similar TA is planned for Rwanda in Quarter 4 Trip Report on TA visit to Tanzania ready.	None	Identify a local consultant to work with in Rwanda for the visit to provide TA.		

Last Updated: 07/12/2005

Workplan: REDSO/RLI **Year** 04

Activity Title Conduct a malaria training workshop and implement follow up M&E activities in 3 selected

Activity Manager Tetteh, Gladys **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1RD04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60F4M4

Activity Description RPM Plus will conduct an orientation workshop on M&E planning for the three selected ECSA countries, followed by country level evaluation of the extent to which their ACT malarial policy was implemented as measured by the recently developed indicators.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Trip Report on TA visit to Tanzania ready.	None	None		

Last Updated: 07/12/2005

Workplan: REDSO/RLI **Year** 04

Activity Title Provide hands-on training for District level quantification of health commodity needs in the

Activity Manager Kirika, Rosalind **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1RD04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60C1M5

Activity Description In FY03, district level commodity needs quantification was conducted in Hanang District, Tanzania. In FY04, the report will be disseminated to the Hanang district health team and other key stakeholders, in a workshop. The workshop will provide an opportunity to examine the recommendations made towards improving the district's commodity management system. One of these recommendations includes a two-week training on how to improve drug management and critical aspects of supervision of the same. This process will be disseminated widely to strengthen on-going decentralization activities.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Editing and finalization of a generic training Curriculum in Pharmaceutical Management, for the decentralized systems Curriculum ready for application in other districts in Tanzania or adaptation in other countries.	None	Organize support supervision trip to facilities in Hanang District		

Last Updated: 07/12/2005

Workplan: REDSO/RLI **Year** 04

Activity Title Conduct TB Commodity Management Follow up activities in Congo DR and Kenya

Activity Manager Thuo, Michael **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1RD04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60CXH6

Activity Description Sub-activity 1: As a follow up to the assessment into the D R Congo TB Commodity management system, REDSO has requested RPM Plus to organize a dissemination meeting with the National Leprosy and TB Program (NLTP) and other TB stakeholders in D R Congo. The aim of the meeting will be to examine options and viable methods for the NLTP to address gaps identified by the assessment, in order to strengthen the TB commodity management system in the DRC.

Sub-activity 2: RPM Plus will follow-up with trainees from two countries who attended the "Pharmaceutical Management for Tuberculosis" Workshop held in March 2004 in Pretoria, South Africa. One of the outputs of this five-day training course was the development of "National TB program Improvement Plans". The follow-up will examine the progress on implementation of these workplans.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	- Developed Terms of service for and identified the Consultant who will discuss with the NTP of DRC and other stakeholders the findings of the assessment by the RPM Plus carried out in FY 03. - Consultant to start work in July	None	- Conduct a stakeholders Meeting to discuss the findings of the assessment. - Conduct interviews with the NTP managers and other parties interested in supporting the NTP. - Follow-up the two DRC participants who attended the TB Pharmaceutical Management Workshop held in 2004, with the aim of establishing the degree to which they had implemented their workplan. - Identify and list f prioritized interventions for short and long term technical assistance to address identifies		

Last Updated: 07/12/2005

Workplan: REDSO/RLI **Year** 04

Activity Title Disseminate results from the regional application of the indicator-based Rapid Performance assessment Tool.

Activity Manager Kirika, Rosalind **Activity #** 7 **Task:** A1RD04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60G2H7

Activity Description Disseminate the findings on the status of Commodity Management Systems in seven ECSA countries following application of the Performance Assessment Tool in FY 04. The Tool will also be applied to the remaining countries and an implementation plan developed for the periodic re-application of the Tool to track changes over time.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	- Consultant hired - Data analysis and report writing completed. - Development of Power Point presentations for dissemination in progress. - Draft Country reports completed.	None	- Develop dissemination formats - Present the findings to key stakeholders at various regional health fora starting with the DJCC in July,2005.		

Last Updated: 07/13/2005

Workplan: Brazil **Year** 04

Activity Title Support national study to re-evaluate appropriate drug regimen for TB failures

Activity Manager Keravec, Joel **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1BR04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60E3G2

Activity Description Through local consultants RPM Plus is providing technical assistance to Helio Fraga TB Center during FY03 for studies which are designed for two purposes: (1) to test resistance in the population to currently used TB medicines, and (2) to test appropriate regimens which remove the currently used drug ethionamide since patient adverse reactions are common. RPM Plus plans to continue this support in FY04 which will expedite completion of the studies by facilitating the hiring of additional consultants, training of cohort center personnel, setting up data collection sites, coordinating analysis of data and discussion of suggestions for regimen changes. RPM Plus will work with Helio Fraga TB Center to establish the best mechanism for gaining consensus from National TB Program stakeholders on the recommended regimens.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	• Hired 1 local expert to provide technical assistance at the study sites, personal training on protocol procedures, and to monitor the study sites • Local expert solicited information on submission of protocol to ethical committee of Anvisa • Local expert reviewed and formatted 6th and final version of the study protocol • Modified budget based on input from local expert	• Stakeholders other activities jeopardized a quick finalization of protocol • Unsure of continued funding for the 3 year study	• Submit study protocol to ethical committee of Center Helio Fraga and of Anvisa • Analyze the patient treatment outcomes of regimens used in the studies • Report findings and recommendations for regimen change		

Last Updated: 09/27/2005

Workplan: Brazil **Year** 04

Activity Title Support national study to re-formulate first line TB drugs to fixed-dose combination (FDC) products

Activity Manager Keravec, Joel **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1BR04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60E3G3

Activity Description Beginning in FY03 RPM Plus is providing technical assistance through local experts for this activity. The purpose of this study is to determine which FDC TB products are best for the Brazilian population. RPM Plus plans to continue this support through the hiring of additional local experts which will allow study centers to be set up more quickly within the Ministry of Health facilities. The additional support will provide more human resources also for gathering and inputting data and subsequently coordinating the analysis of the data by national TB experts. RPM Plus and Helio Fraga TB Center will coordinate a national meeting to discuss the findings and suggested changes. Hopefully future funds will be available for RPM Plus to assist in capacitating MOH facility staffs to use the new regimens from both Activities 2 and 3.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	- Revised action plan based on stakeholder input - Distributed approved action plan - Monitoring ongoing activities of action plan with stakeholders during meeting on April 20, 2005 - Elaborated a comparison between specifications of the chemical raw materials used by Farmanguinhos and Laqfex (official drug manufacturing laboratory of the army forces) in order to explain difficulties in dissolution tests revealed by the quality control program.		- Provide technical assistance in developing a study protocol for evaluating changes of current treatment regimens to FDCs - Provide assistance for developing bioequivalence and bioavailability studies necessary to register the new formulations with ANVISA through the Center for Research of IPEC/Fiocruz - Hire TB experts to conduct appropriate studies		

Last Updated: 09/28/2005

Workplan: Brazil **Year** 04

Activity Title Coordinate decentralization of the quality control system for TB pharmaceutical management

Activity Manager Keravec, Joel **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1BR04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60DXH4

Activity Description The national product quality working group has evaluated potential regional reference quality control centers, consisting of nine laboratories throughout the country. Once the regional laboratories are confirmed by the MOST analysis, training of personnel, calibration of instruments, and assurance of appropriate equipment and reagents will take place.

RPM Plus, Helio Fraga TB Center and INCQS as members of the national quality working group are supporting these activities by providing technical assistance in modeling and implementing the decentralized system. Although TB drugs are being used to establish the quality control system, in the end this activity will promote monitoring of quality pharmaceuticals for all essential drugs in the country.

Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products

Workplan: Brazil **Year** 04

Activity Title Coordinate decentralization of the quality control system for TB pharmaceutical management

Project Year 5 Q3	- First phase quality tests were performed at the INCQS laboratories according to the Brazilian Pharmacopoeia and USP standards - First and second phase sampling consisted of 24 samples representing 8 different drugs and 9 different producers of TB drugs - 24 samples were analyzed of which 15 were approved and 9 found unsatisfactory - Of the 9 unsatisfactory samples, 5 had labeling non-conformities, 4 did not meet product quality standards although not of a safety or effectiveness nature - At request of USAID Deputy Director in Brazil, RPM Plus informed on these official quality results which were conflicting with other rumored information - Developed a new laboratory specific management information system (MIS) for selecting, ordering and purchasing consumables to be used in the program of TB drug quality testing – currently being used at INCQS, and projected to be used in Public Health State laboratories according to the national policy of strengthening the laboratory network developed in partnership with the MoH. - Strengthened capacity of the laboratory network by providing new facilities for the information system connecting the lab network for on-line consolidation of analytical results. - Strengtheneding capacity and quality standards of the 3 state laboratories of Amazonas, Goiás, and Ceará using the MOST tool in partnership with INCQS. - Facilitated presentation on “Reaching TB Pharmaceutical Management Targets for Brazil” showing interim results of RPM Plus activities in the	• Fear of stockouts limited extension of sample collection according to the sampling procedures established by the stakeholders • Difficulty of obtaining testing methodology from manufacturers of Tersidon and Amicacin TB products	- Continue technical assistance to five strategic Public Health State laboratories to decentralize the analytical capacity of TB drug quality testing at regional level and to strengthen their quality systems (Amazonas, Goiás, Paraná, Ceará, Bahia) - Assure the continuity of the current quality assurance activities by continuing monitoring with authorities of the MoH - Provide technical assistance when needed for complex methodology of quality testing of MDR-TB products like amikacin, ethambutol, terezidon or FDCs (eg. Rifampicin, Isoniazid and Pyrazinamide) - Monitor sample collection activities, assuring regular stock repositioning and drug distribution to prevent shortages for patients - Expand technical assistance to the State Lab Network and provide proficiency tests to confirm the capacity of TB drug testing promoting success of the decentralized network

Workplan: Brazil **Year** 04

Activity Title Coordinate decentralization of the quality control system for TB pharmaceutical management country

Last Updated: 09/28/2005

Workplan: Cote d'Ivoire - PEPFAR **Year** 04

Activity Title In collaboration with PSP, prepare a national team of trainers in drug management

Activity Manager Derosena, Michael **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1CI04HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXM2

Activity Description RPM Plus' approach is to develop a core of trainers in drug and health commodity management to respond to training needs in drug management at the national level. Notwithstanding the specificity of drug management issues in Côte d'Ivoire, lessons learned from previous experiences in other West African countries, especially in Guinea and Senegal will help in the identification of key elements to prioritize in the development of the DM training activities. Among different modules planned to be covered are the following: "management of interpersonal relations" in working groups, "learning styles", "drug management curriculum preparation", "inventory management", the "indicator-based approach in drug management". RPM Plus will ensure that PSP-CI takes the lead and ownership of the training program that will be built and developed on a phased approach and an intensive post training supportive supervision agenda. Timely reports on training activities will be submitted to the USG team (CDC/USAID) and the MEMS, as well as the MLS, for policy and decision-making.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Completed				

Last Updated: 08/29/2005

Workplan: Cote d'Ivoire - PEPFAR **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop a national curriculum in drug management for mid-level managers in institutional pharmacies.

Activity Manager Derosena, Michael **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1CI04HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXM3

Activity Description RPM Plus will assist in the collection, analysis, synthesis of the existing documentation, and conduct a one or two-week workshop with the PSP-CI staff and a nucleus of trainers for the preparation/adaptation of the DM curriculum. As an initial effort, with RPM Plus support, the PSP-CI staff who participated in the DM course in Amsterdam will assist in the identification of training needs and coordinate with the training section at PSP-CI for the preparation and development of the DM training materials and activities. RPM Plus will also assist in the production and dissemination of DM tools and appropriate supports for training activities at regional and district levels, with emphasis on PMTCT/HIV/AIDS.

Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products

Workplan: Cote d'Ivoire - PEPFAR **Year** 04

Activity Title Develop a national curriculum in drug management for mid-level managers in institutional pharmacies.

Project Year 5 Q3	The drug management curriculum is composed of 5 modules broken down in 16 sessions. Initially, the plan was that each group of trainers works separately at a specific time to review every component of the materials for consistency. The absence of the regional trainers was compensated by additional time provided by the Abidjan team. Two new sessions were included in the new material: Selection of drugs, and the National Pharmaceutical Policy. A copy of the Policy document, not familiar even to the trainers, was retrieved at the “Direction de la Pharmacie et Medicaments” and will be used/included in the training materials. Dr. Yapi Faustin assisted in the revision of the Supervision module, and the Financial Management. Dr. Gbane and Dr. Blandine were present for reviewing the module on Procurement and the related sessions. He was joined later by Dr. Attoli and Dr. Attia. The module on Distribution and Utilization was consolidated by Dr. Tia and Dr. Djadji, with special attention for the ARV management. All teams were RPM Plus and PSP-CI used the secretarial services of Ahingora Mireille who organized the documentation as they were submitted after correction. Plans are to conduct the first training session in mid July at San Pedro with approximately 20 participants	Not all members of the limited group were available to conduct this activity	- Final review by RPM Plus - Testing

Last Updated: 08/29/2005

Workplan: Cote d'Ivoire - PEPFAR **Year** 04

Activity Title Coordinate training activities in drug management for mid-level managers in institutional pharmacies

Activity Manager Derosena, Michael **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1CI04HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXM4

Activity Description The recent evaluation showed that pharmacists and managers at the peripheral depots and points of sales in health facilities are not prepared to support the PMTCT expansion and PEP activities. The sequential approach proposed by RPM Plus – training of trainers, adaptation of DM curriculum – will lead to the development of a training plan in DM targeting in priority pharmacists, managers and other categories of personnel involved in drug management in the selected 25 – 72 PMTCT centers and the 10 ARTC. Depending on availability of budget, training activities will be extended progressively to other facilities as the PEP program is expanding. RPM Plus will provide technical guidance to the PSP-CI to develop approaches and initiatives in response to training needs in commodity management. RPM Plus will assist PSP-CI in the preparation of a chart for daily drug management operations as well as dissemination of DM standard operating procedures in targeted PMTCT centers and ARTC. Training activities will be accompanied by a follow up and supervision program built on the approach-based indicators and the MSH drug management tool "Inventory Management Assessment Tool" (IMAT).

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Not yet started	Delays in the revision of the training materials. PSP staff not always available.	- Finalization of the materials - Testing		

Last Updated: 08/29/2005

Workplan: Cote d'Ivoire - PEPFAR **Year** 04

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to PSP-CI in response to the drug management software issues identified by RPM Plus during the

Activity Manager Derosena, Michael **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1CI04HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXJ5

Activity Description MSH has developed different drug management programs/software of which the most recent now available is the "ORION@MSH", a user friendly and very functional drug management tool that allows users to manage data through different modules: Tender management, Procurement management, Inventory management, Sales and Distribution management, Warehouse management, Finance, Accounts Receivables & Payables, and Fixed Assets. Modules to be installed depend on national needs identified and technical capacities of the equipment of the client. RPM Plus will investigate PSP-CI interest and possibility for installing ORION at PSP-CI, transferring data from the current software to ORION and ensuring appropriate training of staff to the use of the software. This activity will be conducted in collaboration with the MSH/SEAM project (Strategy For Enhancing Access to Medicines) that supported the development of ORION. RPM Plus will discuss with SEAM to see how to share resources to reduce the costs of this activity.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Draft of the memorandum of understanding prepared. It's being reviewed by RPM Plus staff to be submitted to PSP-CI	None	Translation in French and submission to PSP-CI		

Last Updated: 01/05/2006

Workplan: Dominican Republic **Year** 04

Activity Title Implementation of the Drug Management Information System to assess the availability of TB medicines

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1DO04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60CXA3

Activity Description RPM Plus will conduct two rapid assessments of the levels of TB pharmaceutical supplies during visits programmed for June and September 2005. The assessments will be concentrated in pilot areas V and VIII, but information collected (electronically and by fax) from other provincial warehouses will be analyzed as well. Due to recent changes in the NTP staff, the visit in June will also serve the purpose of reintroducing the work of RPM Plus and the progress in the implementation of the DMIS to the recently appointed NTP logistics manager.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	A visit to Dominican Republic was carried out from May 31st to June 10th. RPM Plus organized a rapid assessment to determine the availability of TB medicines		Next rapid assessment programmed for September/05		

Last Updated: 07/27/2005

Workplan: Dominican Republic **Year** 04

Activity Title Pilot project for the introduction of FDC in areas V and VIII

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1DO04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60G4M4

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide technical assistance, during a visit tentatively scheduled for June 2005, to design a plan for the introduction of FDC in pilot areas V and VIII. The plan will consider the selection of the FDC, the analysis of procurement alternatives, and the development of training materials.

Once the plan is approved by the NTP authorities, a training on the use of FDC will be organized for NTP personnel in areas V and VIII. This activity is tentatively scheduled for August 2005.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM Plus provided technical assistance for the application to the GDF and for the elaboration of a comprehensive plan for the introduction of fixed dose combinations (FDC). The plan included the criteria for the selection of FDC, the estimation of the needs, the procurement mechanism through GDF and guidelines for the use of FDC. The MoH has already sent the application to the GDF. If it is approved, RPM Plus will organize a training workshop for the TB staff in two pilot areas selected by the NTP. Tentatively the training has been scheduled for August 2005.				

Last Updated: 07/27/2005

Workplan: Dominican Republic **Year** 04

Activity Title Strengthening of management capabilities to scale up the Drug Management Information System

Activity Manager Barillas, Edgar **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1DO04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60G4H5

Activity Description The stating point to scale up the DMIS will be a training of trainers (ToT), tentatively scheduled for September 2005. The responsible of the TB Program in each of the areas and provinces (approximately 38 professionals) will be trained on the use of the manual of procedures and the instruments of the DMIS. The ToT workshop will also include strategies to reproduce the training during supervision visits to health facilities, to monitor the implementation process and to take immediate actions during the supervision visits. Scaling up the DMIS requires strong management skills, for this reason the ToT will be preceded by a workshop for the strengthening of the general management capabilities using the MOST tool.

RPM Plus has programmed resources for the training in management and leadership, for the ToT on DMIS and for the reproduction of materials, but not for supervision visits and additional training activities. This workshop will be cosponsored by the Global Drug Fund.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No activities planned for this Quarter	The decision of the NTP to introduce Fixed Dose Combinations has delayed the extention of the Drug Management Information System, since the norms and procedures were revised.	Workshop to scale up DMIS is schedulled for September / 05		

Last Updated: 07/27/2005

Workplan: Ethiopia PEP 1.5 **Year** 04

Activity Title TA in drug supply management

Activity Manager Daniel, Gabriel **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1ET04HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXH7

Activity Description Provide assistance to PASS, RHBs, HFs in selection, quantification, procurement, clearance, storage and distribution of ARVs in collaboration with IDA, PHARMID and key partners with TA from RPM Plus

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Distribution have been made for additional 2175 ART clients to all of the 20 sites that makes a total of 6800 free ARV recipients when add up to the previously distributed 4620. In addition, distribution has been made for 430 new paediatric patients to all of the 20 ART sites and second line ARVs for 100 clients in Tilur Anbessa and Zewditu Hospitals. Weekly ART status update has been compiled for all the operating ART sites for the first time. Started receiving monthly ARV activity reports from some of the sites. Receipt of first order finalized and shipping documents started arriving for second order while part of outstanding stavudine. PMTCT: Site visits to most PMTCT Health facilities by Regional Pharmaceutical Associates were conducted. Assisted MOH to clear AXIOS donated test kits and NRV from Customs.	Delay in the clearance of some shipment due to incomplete shipping documents caused some shortage for second round distribution. The incomplete regimens distributed MOH/PASS and excess stavudine 40 mg and nevirapine 200 mg. Excess stock reports than distributed received from some sites dues to mix up with the Global Fund distribution.	Preparation for refill distribution for the ART sites. Move towards working together with MOH/PASS as individual efforts cause inappropriate stock levels at some sites.		

Last Updated: 04/13/2006

Workplan: Ethiopia PEP 1.5 **Year** 04

Activity Title Renovate and upgrade infrastructure

Activity Manager Daniel, Gabriel **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1ET04HIP **Sub-Task:** 60A2H5

Activity Description Renovate and upgrade pharmacy and laboratory infrastructures as required for secure and safe storage for drugs, supplies and records.
(shelving/lockable cabinets, refrigerators) and provide improved confidential dispensing and counseling booths and incinerators for damaged drug disposal.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Renovation and structures' upgrade (dispensing pharmacy, drugstore, counseling rooms, PMTCT, laboratory, incinerator, and dispensing booths) at Mekele Hospital, Mekele Army Hospital, Bahar dar Flede Hiwote Referral Hospital, Adit Helath Center, Woreta Health Center, Gonder Referral Hospital, Black Lion Referral Hospital, Zewditu Referral Hospital and Police Referral Hospital are completed and handed over to the facilities. For the following facilities, works are in progress and Committees have been set up to follow up on progress at Diredawa Dill Chora Referral Hospital, Harare Hiwote Fana Referral Hospital and Yergalem Referral Hospital. Planning visits made to Wolita Soodo, Jimma and Dessie to set up Committees and start up renovation. 27 rooms have been extended and built for solving problem of inadequate working space for dispensing pharmacy, drugstore, and counseling rooms in the above 9 facilities to improve status of ART, PMTCT, lab and VCT services. 9 main existing drugstores and 4 lab rooms have been renovated to improve status of the facilities.	Fluctuation of prices and lack of construction material. Facilities tend to change specification and drawing of renovation agreed upon. Facilities and some regions do not have qualified Formation of renovation committees is becoming difficult. Distance of the facilities in the region makes work challenging.	Assigning skilled renovation team to each facility and purchase of construction material and its delivery.		

Last Updated: 04/13/2006

Workplan: Ethiopia PEP 1.5 **Year** 04

Activity Title TA in MIS and M&E

Activity Manager Daniel, Gabriel **Activity #** 7 **Task:** A1ET04HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXE4

Activity Description Provide technical assistance to PASS, RHBs, PHARMID and health facilities in the development and implementation of practical MIS and M&E (information system and reporting as well as design of user-friendly manual and electronic inventory management tools in areas such as adherence, rational use of ARVs and development of IEC materials)

Provide computers, Printers, kardex filing systems etc.)

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Study and analysis of the current system of MSH's and Health Facilities work and development of a new electronic version to monitor and control ARV drugs. Technical support from MSH. PMTCT: Data collected for reporting and technical support provided. Ensuring continuous printing and distribution of MIS formats to new and old ART sites. Reviewing reports coming from ART sites. Supporting RPAs on issues related to MIS. Providing technical assistance to ART sites on all aspects of drug supplies management on demand and/or through supportive supervision. Reviewing MIS training manual and SOP documents on a continuous basis according to recent changes.	Lack of computers in all Health facilities.	Hire Data clerks on sites where not available. Train data clerks on all sites for both manual and electronic systems. Install and distribute ITT and Drug Dispensing Tools (if computers are available) Technical support for all sites. Design and implement networking for new building when MSH changes building.		

Last Updated: 04/12/2006

Workplan: Ethiopia PEP 1.5 **Year** 04

Activity Title Human Resources capacity/training

Activity Manager Daniel, Gabriel **Activity #** 8 **Task:** A1ET04HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXM3

Activity Description Provide technical assistance in training and provision of reference materials in ARV drug management and ART

Training will focus on pharmacists, physicians, nurses and lab personnel, and will include study tours to model facilities and externally.

Organize and participate in workshops/conferences to share experiences and networking

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No training has been conducted during this period.				

Last Updated: 04/13/2006

Workplan: MAC-Field Support-Ghana **Year** 03

Activity Title Support to Ghana Food and Drug Board

Activity Manager Citysoft Admin **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1GH03MAC **Sub-Task:** 60A5H3

Activity Description x

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	None				

Last Updated: 04/17/2006

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Technical Activity coordination including M&E activities

Activity Manager Thuo, Michael **Activity #** 1 **Task:** A1KE05HIP **Sub-Task:** 97XXY1

Activity Description N/a

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Activity Progress 1. Coordinate plans to support MEDS to procure, distribute and monitor ARV drug stocks 2. Coordinate plans for strengthening the commodity management systems to increased number of sites (70 facility pharmacies which are supported by 35 ART centres). 3. Coordinate ARV Drug distribution planning with MEDS. 4. In collaboration with the interagency team and suppliers advocate for the removal of the Common External Tariff of 10% on all drugs 5. Develop the Kenya country operating plan for RPM plus for 2005 Products Progress	The removal of the tax involved various high ranking players within the Government and East African community causing a delay in the implementation of the waiver of the tariff.	Continue working with MEDS and Interagency team to address obstacles that may arise in the drug supply.		

Last Updated: 04/11/2006

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Plan and coordinate collaboratively with MEDS and USG PEPFAR Inter-agency team for procurement and distribution

Activity Manager Wangai, Mary **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1KE05HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXH2

Activity Description RPM Plus will work closely and collaboratively with USG PEPFAR Inter-agency team , MEDS and NASCOP to assist in the timely national planning of drug requirements, quantification/forecasting, procurement , distribution planning and documentation of the utilization of ART commodities by USG supported sites. Activities will include gathering and collating information stock levels and usage rates to assist commodity planning, acquisition and distribution to sites in a timely manner.

Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Plan and coordinate collaboratively with MEDS and USG PEPFAR Inter-agency team for procurement and distribution

Project Year 5 Q3	1. Procurement of ARVs By working closely with USAID/Kenya, CDC and MEDS, RPM Plus ensured that the ARV drugs were procured and delivered into MEDS in accordance with the purchase orders and the source and origin waiver. Initially under track 1.5, RPM Plus monitored the whole procurement process by following up with IDA and the suppliers until the drugs were delivered to MEDS. Subsequently, RPM Plus worked withy MEDS and the Inter-agency team in following up the procured ARVs from the suppliers before their delivery into MEDS. 2. Distribution of ARVs to sites RPM Plus worked collaboratively with MEDS and the Inter-agency team in ensuring that the ARV drugs were distributed to a total of 59 approved sites as agreed with the Inter-agency team. 3. Monitoring utilization of ARVs by sites RPM Plus worked with the Kenya PEPFAR Inter-agency team to implement a system of ordering the ARVs from MEDS and providing feedback on the utilization of the ARVs. RPM Plus also assisted in gathering and collating information from sites on stock levels and usage rates. This feedback was useful in informing the Interagency team and MEDS on effective and efficient planning for commodity acquisition and distribution to sites in a timely manner. The data collection and collation was through use of ARV Order forms and Monthly summary report forms, which were implemented at all the sites getting ARVs for use in ordering ARVs and providing monthly summary reports on the drug utilization.	1. Procurement of ARVs • Delayed delivery of ARV drugs into MEDS by the drug suppliers hampered the scaling up of the program as not all the ARV drugs for each regimen were available in sufficient quantities all the time for distribution to sites. • A global shortage of Stavudine from the manufacturer of the branded drug meant that all the quantities that were supposed to have been delivered at MEDS were to be delivered according to a staggered schedule. • A newly introduced Custom Reform and Modernization Project between the Kenya Revenue Authority and the Kenya Bureau of Standards heightened fears of long delays in the clearing process of drugs at ports during importation. • A limited list of drugs that could be procured meant that there were few options left in terms of sources of ARvs in case of shortages from suppliers. 2. Distribution of ARVs to health facilities • Many sites initially did not make use of the forms provided for making ARV drug orders, and so when they placed their orders, some information that would be useful in reviewing the orders was missing e.g. stocks on hand, numbers of patients on ARVs etc. Coupled with the fact that many sites did not know how to quantify, some sites would start ordering when they had almost	1. Work collaboratively with MEDS and the Inter-agency in the quantification of ARVs and procurement from approved suppliers. All purchase orders for ARV procurement should be given to suppliers as early as possible due to the long lead times. 2. With the approval of several generic ARVs by US FDA, their inclusion into the list of drugs that could be procured under PEPFAR means that options are available. Hence, follow up is to be done to ensure that the approved generic drugs are available in-country for purchase in case of shortage from the routine branded suppliers. 3. Provide technical assistance to sites to improve their management of data and subsequent reporting on ARV drug utilization. This will be through the use of tried and tested manual tools developed by RPM Plus for commodity management. For those sites that are able to afford computers, they will be provided with the computer based ART dispensing tool developed by RPM Plus to assist in managing data for both the patients receiving drugs, and the stocks within the pharmacy.

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Plan and coordinate collaboratively with MEDS and USG PEPFAR Inter-agency team for procurement and distribution

Products Progress 1. Commodity forecast reports - done 2. Quantification tables – completed for COP 2005 procurement 3. Monthly stock update reports - ongoing 4. Minutes of meetings - completed	run out of stock of ARVs. • Sites did not have the necessary skills to forecast their drug requirements in order to place their orders in a timely manner. 3. Data collection and collation on ARV drug utilization • Data collection and collation on ARV drug utilization from the sites was not always timely as sites did not have adequate staff to update the data prior to reporting. The manual tools in some of the high volume sites did not make the work any easier.	4. Work collaboratively with ART sites and the Inter-agency team in providing the necessary data management tools to improve site reporting to MEDS.

Last Updated: 04/11/2006

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to build the capacity of MEDS to support the scale up of access to and rational use of ART in Kenya

Activity Manager Thuo, Michael **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1KE05HIP **Sub-Task:** 60EXH3

Activity Description RPM Plus will work with MEDS and USAID/Kenya , CDC/Kenya to identify activities and technical assistance inputs needed to build the capacity of MEDS to support the USG strategy for Kenya. Activities will include;

- Technical assistance to strengthen MEDS Management Information Systems (MIS),
- Improving the HR Capacity for commodity management through training and mentoring,
- Strengthening the Quality Control (QC) Laboratory,
- Strengthening the Training, Supervision and M&E initiatives.

Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to build the capacity of MEDS to support the scale up of access to and rational use of ART in Kenya

Project Year 5 Q3	Activity Progress 1. Technical Assistance to strengthen MEDS Management Information System • An assessment of the system has already been done in quarter 4 of the previous year. Earlier follow ups had been done within the first 2 quarters of this year. An additional follow up on MIS design and implementation by MEDS was conducted in this quarter. Quotations on the various types of MIS infrastructural enhancements have been received from suppliers and their evaluation is ongoing. 2. Strengthening the training, supervision and M&E Initiatives • Technical working groups were established in quarter 4 COP 2003, comprising of both MEDS and RPM Plus staff. However, activities of these working groups have not yet been reactivated and would continue into the next quarter. 3. Strengthening the Quality Control (QC) Laboratory • A draft standard operating procedure for sampling products for analysis has been developed. Discussions are ongoing on how to automate the sampling process. 4. Strengthening the training, supervision and M&E Initiatives • Through technical advice from MSH/RPM Plus, MEDS were able to form an M&E/MIS committee with staff from different departments within MEDS in the previous quarter (July 2004). However, the activities of the committee were not implemented and would continue into the next quarter.	1. Technical Assistance to strengthen MEDS Management Information System • The excess activities associated with the scale up under PEPFAR made it difficult for MEDS staff to fully concentrate on strengthening of the MIS. In addition, MEDS have been undertaking an expansion for their warehouses throughout this period. 2. Strengthening the training, supervision and M&E Initiatives • Time constrains by MEDS such that they have not been able to come forward with the core team that is to drive forward the various activities i.e. supervision, training, M&E. This was partly attributable to the staffing constrains at MEDS especially with the rapid scaling up activities by the Kenya PEPFAR Initiative. 3. Strengthening the Quality Control (QC) Laboratory • A draft standard operating procedure for sampling products for analysis has been developed. Discussions are ongoing on how to automate the sampling process. 4. Strengthening the training, supervision and M&E Initiatives • Through technical advice from MSH/RPM Plus, MEDS were able to form an M&E/MIS committee with staff from different departments within	1. Continue working closely with MEDS staff on strengthening the MIS design and implementation as indicated during the initial assessment in Quarter 4 COP 2003. 2. Work closely with MEDS ICT Manager in identifying key equipment that could be purchased to strengthen their existing MI system. 3. Work closely with the MEDS operations team in developing standard operating procedures for the laboratory, as well as identifying key partners that could assist in the procurement of key laboratory equipment. 4. Initiate development of standard operating procedures for the quality control laboratory

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to build the capacity of MEDS to support the scale up of access to and rational use of ART in Kenya

• Support to MEDS through monitoring drug supplies under track 2 procurement and their distribution to health facilities Products Progress • Technical Assistance Reports/Record (TAR) – completed • Training Reports - ongoing • Activity Planning meetings-minutes and proceedings • Inventory Tracking Tool – being used by RPM Plus in tracking commodities at both facilities and MEDS, and collating information from sites	MEDS in the previous quarter (July 2004). However, the activities of the committee were not implemented and would continue into the next quarter. • Support to MEDS through monitoring drug supplies under track 2 procurement and their distribution to health facilities

Last Updated: 04/11/2006

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Conduct assessments in potential ART service delivery points to determine their readiness for the provision of Pharmaceutical

Activity Manager Thuo, Michael **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1KE05HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXA5

Activity Description RPM Plus will continue conducting the rapid commodity management site assessments of potential sites as requested by the USG team and PEPFAR treatment partners in order to establish their readiness for providing pharmaceutical services in support of ART program scale up. The rapid assessments (usually lasting for a duration of one day), are also intended to elicit commodity management gaps existing at the sites and to guide system strengthening efforts.

Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Conduct assessments in potential ART service delivery points to determine their readiness for the provision of Pharmaceutical

Project Year 5 Q3	Activity Progress 1.1 Assessments were done in 10 facilities (Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH), Nyumbani Children's Home, Thika DH, Gertrude's Garden Children's Hospital (GGCH), lea Toto Kariobangi, Lea Toto Kibera, Mathare North clinic, Kangemi HC, Ngaira Dispensary and Malindi DH). Re-assessment was done in 1 MoH facility (Mariakani SDH) ascertain the level of site preparedness before delivery of ARVs. ? The facilities assessed were supported by either Ministry of health (MOH), Ministry of local government; Community based organizations (CBOs) or Non-governmental organizations (NGOs). ? All assessments were done to establish the extent of site readiness and institutional and HCD needs ahead of start of ART or to meet scale up demands for sites already offering ART. ? Key areas assessed included: a) Human Capacity Development b) Infrastructure supporting ART commodity management c) Inventory management systems d) Review of ART Inventory records was done in all the facilities visited 1.2 Rapid site assessment for IT infrastructure to install ARV dispensing tool was done in 1 private institution (GGCH) which has PEPFAR funded supported ART program. 1.3 Identification and documentation of gaps and challenges in the above key areas. This was done in all the 11 facilities. Of the 11 facilities, 1 (i.e. KNH) had pre-existing PEPFAR and GoK supported ART programs, 2 (i.e.Thika DH	- During the site assessments, poor record keeping delayed the data extraction process. ? The persons with vital information may not have been the persons interviewed. ? Some sites do not have a multidisciplinary team, necessary for development of a comprehensive implementation plan to address the recommended interventions. ? Poor record keeping at facilities causes delay in quantification as the relevant data required is not readily available	- Share assessment findings with site staff and managers - Develop a Scale up kit as a tool for use during site assessments - Collaborate with KEMSA/NASCOP, FHI etc to harmonize execution of rapid assessments. (On-going). - Training of staff dispensing ARVs in ART commodity management - Develop a comprehensive site strengthening plan in collaboration with a multidisciplinary team

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Conduct assessments in potential ART service delivery points to determine their readiness for the provision of Pharmaceutical

and Malindi DH) had adult GoK programs, 1 private site (i.e. Nyumbani Children's Hospital) was purchasing ARVs for their eligible children and 1 was dispensing ARVs at access prices and 6 sites were waiting to start offering ART.
1.3. Stipulation of recommendations/interventions to address the identified gaps and challenges was done in all the above 10 sites
1.4. During site assessments:
? Rapid orientation on the use of manual tools used for ordering ARVs under the PEPFAR initiative and reporting on their consumption was done in 3 facilities (KNH, Nyumbani Children's home, Thika DH and Malindi DH). ?
Products Progress
11 site assessments reports were written and are available.
? Curriculum for ART commodity management for primary health care completed. Handouts prepared. To be reviewed and finalized in the next quarter.

Last Updated: 04/11/2006

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to national efforts in strengthening pharmaceutical services in support of ART

Activity Manager Thuo, Michael **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1KE05HIP **Sub-Task:** 60CXH6

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide technical assistance to strengthen pharmaceutical services in support of ART services. Technical assistance will include:

- ? Initiating and strengthening commodity management activities at ART sites in support of program scale up
- ? Initiating commodity management plans of action collaboratively with site staff
- ? Supporting ART treatment partners

Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to national efforts in strengthening pharmaceutical services in support of ART

Project Year 5 Q3

Activity Progress

1. Training on ART Dispensing Tool.

1.1 A total of 41 ART staff members from 32 sites trained on ART dispensing tool on 14th April 2005.each of the facility was given a CD Rom containing the dispensing tool software and a copy of operating manual. Training breakdown by cadres:
21 pharmacists, 13 pharmaceutical technologists, 2 Nurses, 2 program IT specialists, 1 ART logistician and 2 M&E Program officers

1.2 A total of 28 ART dispensing staff members trained on ART dispensing tool on 19th May 2005.Each facility was provided with a CD Rom containing the dispensing tool and operators manual to install the tool in their facilities. Cadres trained : 8 pharmacists, 14 pharmaceutical technologists 1 medical officer , 2 clinical officer, 1 IT specialists , and 2 others

1.3 Update of the version of the ART dispensing tool from version 1.1 to 1.2 carried out in 6 facilities and dispensing staff in these sites oriented on the new version.

2.0 Manual Tools

2.1 ART staff from 4 facilities trained on the use of Request to Supply ARVs from USG PEPFAR Initiative and Monthly Consumption Report forms

2.2 ART staff from 3 facilities trained on the use of MSH Chart to Track the Expiry Dates of Drugs and provided with the charts for use in their facilities.

2.3 Development of forms and SOPs for the ART sites scale- up kit on going.

3.0 Quantification of ARVs

ART Dispensing Tool

- Lack of computers in the ART sites is a major set back in the role out program of the ART dispensing tool.
- Although the dispensing tool only requires basic computer skills, staff in some of the sites lack the skills making the sites require a lot of assistance to effectively use the tool.
- Majority of the dispensing staff in these sites are not comfortable with dispensing from the computer hence are using the tool as an inventory rather than dispensing tool.
- Staff shortage in some of the facilities.

Manual MIS Tools

- Adopting the tools for some of the facilities has been difficult as they support the entire ART team and the facility management besides the trained dispensing staff.

- To continue with nationwide trainings on ART dispensing tool
- Train ART staff from primary healthcare settings on ART commodity management
- Train pharmacy staff on quantification work books.

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to national efforts in strengthening pharmaceutical services in support of ART

3.1 Direct technical assistance in quantification given to 4 ART programs namely; Thika District Hospital pediatric ART program, Gertrude's Garden Children's Hospital, KEMRI ART Program and Eastern Deanery ART Program
3.2 Quantification for 3 new sites following rapid assessment of site readiness done and orders for ARVs raised
3.3 Review of the regimen data for Nyanza CDC sites done.
Products Progress

- Training reports on ART dispensing tool available.
- Preparation of MIS tools for the scale up kit ongoing
- Technical report on upgrading the ART dispensing tool at MTRH
- Orders to supply ARVs to various PEPFAR ART sites available.

Last Updated: 04/11/2006

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to the Department of Pharmaceutical Services to strengthen ART policy, practice, and regulatory

Activity Manager Thuo, Michael **Activity #** 7 **Task:** A1KE05HIP **Sub-Task:** 60A4H7

Activity Description RPM Plus will work with the Department of Pharmaceutical Services and its institutions,(eg, the Pharmacy and Poisons Board, National Quality Control Laboratory,) to support the policy and practice reform agenda aimed at strengthening national skills and capacity in commodity selection, quantification, procurement, distribution, quality assurance and appropriate use of commodities needed for the treatment and care of PLWHA. RPM Plus will also support activities by the Pharmacy professional association, the NGO/private sector aimed at improving access and use of ARVs and other medicines in support of the national ART programme.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Activity Progress 1. A draft policy paper on procurement, surveillance and quality control issues for ARV drugs in Kenya was submitted to the new Chief Pharmacist, DOP. 2. Begin the development of a plan for pharmacovigilance of ARV drugs. Products Progress A draft Policy document for the Quality Control and Assurance of ARV Drugs has being for circulated among stakeholders by the Chief Pharmacist, DOP for comments	• Due to shortage of staff there is only one officer assigned the role of developing guidelines and activities that support pharmacovigilance at the PPB. This officer has been away on compassionate leave hence development of ADR reporting tools was postponed.	1. RPM Plus will work with the Department of Pharmaceutical Services, KEMSA, PPB, NQCL, MOH/NASCOP, and other stake holders to develop steps towards adoption and implementation of the policy on pharmacovigilance. 2. Participate in the deliberating on a Pharmacovigilance plan for the country. 3. Quarterly Drug utilization reports for program improvement 4. Introduction of ARV drug order book and Monthly Consumption summary report to 3 PEP supported sites		

Last Updated: 04/11/2006

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to national efforts in strengthening laboratory services in support of ART programs

Activity Manager Thuo, Michael **Activity #** 8 **Task:** A1KE05HIP **Sub-Task:** 60DXH8

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide technical assistance to strengthen laboratory services in support of ART by working synergistically with other members of the national laboratory team. All RPM Plus laboratory activities will be conducted under the auspices of the National Public Health Laboratory Services—the department of Kenya MOH charged with providing technical and tactical oversight for all laboratory services in Kenya

Technical assistance will include:
- Support to National Level activities
- Supporting NPHLS activities aimed at scaling up laboratory activities
- Implementing good laboratory practices in support of ART

Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to national efforts in strengthening laboratory services in support of ART programs

Project Year 5 Q3	Activity Progress Support to national level efforts to develop/update the national laboratory policy jointly with MOH/NPHLS and partners: • Jointly with other Technical Partners participated in a workshop held in May 2005 to develop the National Laboratory Policy for ART program • Provided technical assistance in documentation of the workshop proceedings report • Provided logistical support for the workshop Provide strategic ART policy, professional and operational information /materials as needed • Participated in two meetings of the Laboratory Inter Agency Coordination Committee to provide technical assistance in mapping out the process for policy and strategic plan development. Strengthen inventory management systems to reduce outages of reagents and procedures to maintain equipment to reduce breakdowns: • The second draft for review of site based ART laboratory inventory management and record keeping SOPs for one model site completed. • Report on Proceedings of Meeting for Development of National Laboratory Policy circulated to the Laboratory Interagency Coordinating Committee(ICC) on August 17th 2005- awaiting editing Progress on products • Laboratory SOPs for clinical tests for	• Absence of a national laboratory strategic plan which would allow for coordinated and harmonized resource mobilization and activity implementation.	• Support to national level efforts to develop a national laboratory policy strategic plan jointly with MOH/NPHLS and partners • Support national level activities aimed at improving institutional capacity by adopting and disseminating laboratory SOPs • Train laboratory staff on how to use SOPs; • Adapt and disseminate laboratory guidelines and standards operating procedures • Institutionalize laboratory quality assurance procedures including performance of internal QCs and calibration of equipment • Strengthen inventory management systems to reduce outages of reagents and procedures to maintain equipment to reduce breakdowns • Rapid assessment of national level sites to determine laboratory capacity and the gaps that exist • provide on going training for performance improvement including Good Laboratory Practices and Universal Precautions

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to national efforts in strengthening laboratory services in support of ART programs

Mombasa sites printed and circulated to the sites
• Laboratory SOPs and forms for record keeping and inventory management for Mombasa sites developed and tested and undergoing final reviews at site level

Last Updated: 04/11/2006

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Respond to requests to participate and support Emergency Plan national coordination meetings, workshops, site visits/study tours as

Activity Manager Thuo, Michael **Activity #** 9 **Task:** A1KE05HIP **Sub-Task:** 60F8N9

Activity Description This activity includes responding to requests from USG partners, collaborators, and MOH counterparts to support meetings, training workshops, and site visits as requested. RPM Plus will also undertake regional and site based stakeholder support supervision missions jointly with other stakeholders.

Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Respond to requests to participate and support Emergency Plan national coordination meetings, workshops, site visits/study tours as

Project Year 5 Q3	Activity Progress 1. Responding to requests from Kenya PEPFAR Inter-agency team RPM Plus responded to the following technical requests from the Inter-agency team: - Review the commodity management systems at Gertrude's Garden Children's Home, Thika District Hospital with an aim of ensuring they are able to start receiving ARV drugs for their ART program through the PEPFAR program. - Make a presentation on the ARV drug supply under the Kenya PEPFAR Program on behalf of the Inter-agency team, at a workshop for senior Ministry of Health staff including Provincial Medical Officers and other key ART staff from the provinces. - Brief a team from USAID Washington on the ARV drug supply under the Kenya PEPFAR Program. The team was sent from Washington on a fact finding mission as part of the preparatory work prior to signing of the new contract for the global supply chain management under PEPFAR. The sites visited included Coptic Hospital and MEDS (the central warehouse). 2. Coordinating Inter-agency meetings RPM Plus coordinated and participated in the following meetings: - A meeting held at CDC campus, Nairobi to review the status of ARVs being procured for the Kenya PEPFAR Program. The meeting was between the Inter-agency team, RPM Plus, MEDS and the suppliers of ARv drugs in the country. - A meeting held at MEDS to discuss with the team from USAID Washington, on the ARV drug supply in Kenya in	None	Continue working closely with the Inter-agency team and MEDS in ensuring uninterrupted supply of ARVs at sites to support the program.

Workplan: Kenya COP **Year** 05

Activity Title Respond to requests to participate and support Emergency Plan national coordination meetings, workshops, site visits/study tours as

preparation of the signing of the supply chain management contract under PEPFAR.
- Quantification meetings between the Inter-agency team, MEDS and RPM Plus to review assumptions used in quantification prior to procurement for COP 2005 for the Kenya PEPFAR program.

Products Progress
Trip Reports - done
Site Reports - done
Workshop/Meeting proceedings - completed

Last Updated: 04/11/2006

Workplan: MAC-Field Support-Kenya **Year** 04

Activity Title Transition plan for change of drug policy in Kenya

Activity Manager Tetteh, Gladys **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1KE04MAC **Sub-Task:** 60A4H2

Activity Description RPM Plus proposes to assist the Division of Malaria Control in the development of a transition plan for change of the drug policy. The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to Kenya on the actions that need to be taken to implement the policy change for the first-line treatment for malaria to the ACT (artemether-lumefantrine) consistent with WHO's policy recommendations. It addresses operational and technical considerations for both the public and private sectors, and it may be used as a planning tool to identify technical assistance and resource needs.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Transition Plan development intensified due to official announcement of new ACT policy by the Director of Medical Services, Kenya. Currently undergoing review by stakeholders including WHO Kenya country office, WHO Geneva, Members of the Drug Policy Technical Working Group.	None.	Finalization of plan. To be followed by editing, printing and dissemination of document in the next quarter.		

Last Updated: 10/05/2005

Workplan: MAC-Field Support-Kenya **Year** 04

Activity Title Transition plan for change of drug policy in Kenya

Activity Manager Citysoft Admin **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1KE04MAC **Sub-Task:** 60A4H2

Activity Description RPM Plus proposes to assist the Division of Malaria Control in the development of a transition plan for change of the drug policy. The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to Kenya on the actions that need to be taken to implement the policy change for the first-line treatment for malaria to the ACT (artemether-lumefantrine) consistent with WHO's policy recommendations. It addresses operational and technical considerations for both the public and private sectors, and it may be used as a planning tool to identify technical assistance and resource needs.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Transition Plan development intensified due to official announcement of new ACT policy by the Director of Medical Services, Kenya. Currently undergoing review by stakeholders including WHO Kenya country office, WHO Geneva, Members of the Drug Policy Technical Working Group.	None.	Finalization of plan. To be followed by editing, printing and dissemination of document in the next quarter.		

Last Updated: 04/10/2006

Workplan: Cambodia **Year** 03

Activity Title Provide TA to counterparts to adapt the appropriate DMCI tool, plan and prepare for an assessment of drug management in child

Activity Manager Duzey, Olya **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1KH03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60F6H3

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide TA to counterparts to select the appropriate tool(s) for assessing drug management in child health and to develop a plan for conducting the assessment in consultation with the Cambodian Mission. Given that the findings of the assessment will be utilized to guide development of a national child health strategy, this activity will be designed to focus on priority focus USAID districts. The assessment will include management of vitamin A, vaccines and other commodities required for child health and so RPM Plus will coordinate its activities with Management and Organizational Sustainability Tool (MOST) in Cambodia.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM Plus continued to provide TA to RACHA in completing the analysis of the C-DMCI report. Sections of the MS Access database used to record data from the survey were reworked and resubmitted to RACHA. In an effort to produce more meaningful results, RPM Plus requested that RACHA stratify the data to generate indicators by provider type. RPM Plus is also providing TA to RACHA in reviewing data entries from the provider and household surveys and tracer drug list in the MS Access database. During RPM Plus visit to Cambodia in May, RACHA requested additional hands on TA to complete data analysis and writing the report.	Despite necessary and consistent electronic TA, progress in completing data analysis has been slow.	Because current FY funding is limited, RPM Plus will discuss RACHA's request for additional TA with the Mission.		

Last Updated: 10/07/2005

Workplan: Cambodia **Year** 03

Activity Title Provide TA to counterparts to conduct a drug management in child health assessment, enter and analyze the data and draft a report

Activity Manager Duzey, Olya **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1KH03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60F6A4

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide TA to counterparts in conducting the training of data collectors and other survey personnel, participate in the data collection and its quality control, debriefing of survey personnel, data cleaning and entry, data analysis and drafting of a preliminary report.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	RPM Plus continues to provide TA to RACHA in completing the analysis of the C-DMCI data. Sections of the MS Access database used to record data from the C-DMCI survey were reworked and resubmitted to RACHA. RPM Plus requested that RACHA stratify the data to generate indicators by provider type. This analysis will better direct interventions to improve knowledge and dispensing practices of providers. In May 2005, RPM Plus visited Cambodia and met with RACHA to follow up on the C-DMCI survey. RPM Plus requested a time frame from RACHA as to when RPM Plus may expect the final report, survey instruments and a full set of indicators. RACHA submitted a preliminary report of the survey results and RPM Plus continues to provide electronic feedback. While in Phnom Penh, RPM Plus also met with USAID and counterparts from WHO, MediCAM and other key stakeholders to discuss issues of joint interest in child survival, malaria and the status of the development of the National Child Survival strategy.	Reworking some of the sections of the MS Access database took longer than anticipated which delayed data entry and analysis. In April, data entry was further delayed because the RACHA office was closed for a week because of the Cambodian New Year celebrations. RACHA requested additional TA from RPM Plus to complete the data analysis, interpret findings and review conclusions and suggested recommendations. Current funding does not allow for an additional field visit, so RPM Plus continues to provide electronic feedback which contributes to an already slow process.	Discuss with the Mission the potential of using a limited amount of funds from FY04 budget to provide additional TA to RACHA.		

Last Updated: 07/20/2005

Workplan: Cambodia **Year** 04

Activity Title Technical activity coordination and monitoring

Activity Manager Lynders, Marion **Activity #** 1 **Task:** A1KH04XXX **Sub-Task:** 97XXY1

Activity Description This activity includes technical activity coordination, work plan development, budget monitoring, progress monitoring, reporting, meetings, and communications with partners and collaborators.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Ongoing activity				

Last Updated: 10/07/2005

Workplan: Cambodia **Year** 04

Activity Title Conduct a strategy development workshop to disseminate survey findings, discuss potential recommendations and design

Activity Manager Lynders, Marion **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1KH04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60E3M3

Activity Description It is anticipated during this workshop, partners will develop a strategy and recommendations for interventions to improve pharmaceutical management in support of child health. Such recommendations will be consistent with and help inform the National Child Survival Strategy on issues related to access to and use of medicines for childhood illnesses.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Activity planned for quarter four	Delay in writing the preliminary report due to slow coordination among partners	Coordinate logistics with RACHA for upcoming analysis workshop with partners		

Last Updated: 08/02/2005

RPM Plus Activity and Product Status Report **Selection Criteria:** Reporting Year = Project Year 5 AND Reporting Quarter = Q3

Workplan: Cambodia **Year** 04

Activity Title Provide technical assistance with development of selected programmatic interventions

Activity Manager Lynders, Marion **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1KH04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60EXH4

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide TA to counterparts to develop selected interventions to strengthen pharmaceutical management in support of child survival. Although the nature of the intervention development undertaken will only be determined following examination of the C-DMCI findings, it is possible that RPM Plus may provide TA to child survival partners to develop and implement interventions within their planned activities to leverage funds and increase the potential reach of these interventions. Further implementation of these interventions may be undertaken in FY05, subject to additional funding.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Activity planned for fourth quarter	Survey results and potential recommendations still to be distributed among partners	Coordinate with RACHA in the planning of a policy options workshop with key partners and stakeholders		

Last Updated: 08/02/2005

Workplan: MAC-Field Support-Nigeria **Year** 02

Activity Title Document and guideline reviews for Nigeria

Activity Manager Citysoft Admin **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1NG02MAC **Sub-Task:** 60G3H5

Activity Description WHO primarily, with support from RPM Plus, will offer general technical support for the review and development of manuals, guidelines and training materials for implementation of the new drug policy.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	none				

Last Updated: 04/14/2006

Workplan: Nicaragua **Year** 04

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to the Nicaraguan Technical Working Group on Essential Medicines (continuation of Activity 4, Year 3)

Activity Manager Miralles, Maria **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1NI04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60B4H2

Activity Description RPM Plus will continue providing technical assistance upon USAID Nicaragua Mission request. This could be related to the mechanisms to implement an improved procurement system for the potential program to expand non-for profit medicine outlets, or it may be related to the changes needed to modernize the capacity of the current warehouse and distribution system in the MOH.

Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products

Workplan: Nicaragua **Year** 04

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to the Nicaraguan Technical Working Group on Essential Medicines (continuation of Activity 4, Year 3)

Project Year 5 Q3

Maria Miralles, RPM Plus Deputy Director, visited Nicaragua on April 24-30, 2005 to follow up on the activities of the CPNM. During the visit, the CPNM requested additional technical assistance from RPM Plus. Both RPM Plus and CPNM drafted and agreed on a tentative plan for the implementation of the activities.

As a follow up of this visit, RPM Plus Senior Program Associate, Edgar Barillas, visited Nicaragua from June 13-17 to discuss with local counterparts the terms of reference of specific components and activities that RPM Plus will support in the following months. As a result of the visit, the CPNM, RPM Plus, and counterparts from the MoH agreed on the terms of reference of four activities that RPM Plus will support:

- The elaboration of basic guidelines and procedures for the pharmaceutical supply system, emphasizing on the relationship among the departments and units of the new organization of the MoH.
- The analysis of the current systems to estimate the needs of medicines and supplies, and elaboration of a proposal for a single mechanism to estimate the needs.
- Technical assistance to define the organization and functions of the Central Pharmaceutical and Therapeutic Committee (CURIM central), within the new organization of the MoH.
- Analysis of the current pharmaceutical quality assurance (QA) program of the Ventas Sociales de Medicamentos, and elaboration of a proposal to implement a comprehensive QA system taking into account the financial limitation of the

Contract of the most suitable consultants for the elaboration of the Basic Operational Procedures of the Drug Management System, and a system to program the medicine and supplies needs.

Agreement with local counterparts on the best dates and working methodology for RPM Plus technical assistance to strengthen the central therapeutic committee, and the design of a pharmaceutical quality assurance system for the VSM.

Workplan: Nicaragua **Year** 04

Activity Title Provide technical assistance to the Nicaraguan Technical Working Group on Essential Medicines (continuation of Activity 4, Year 3)

VSM networks.

Last Updated: 07/15/2005

Workplan: Senegal **Year** 02

Activity Title Provide assistance to monitor and evaluate the implementation of AQ/SP in Richard Toll and Touba

Activity Manager Shretta, Rima **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1SN02MAC **Sub-Task:** 60F4A2

Activity Description RPM Plus, with logistical input from BASICS II will evaluate these practices in the health facilities that have begun implementation.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	The report of the evaluation was completed and translated into French.		The evaluation report will be shared with partners. The findings will be used by the malaria committee to guide the transition to use of ACTs expected later in 2005.		

Last Updated: 09/08/2005

Workplan: Senegal **Year** 03

Activity Title Increase the capacity in store management, thus improving drug availability, at health centre, health posts and health huts.

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1SN03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60C3H2

Activity Description Over the last year BASICS II and RPM Plus started training the responsibles of health posts in the principles of store management and MSH has been working with the district store keepers to improve store management at district store level. As well as finalizing the training of the responsibles of the health posts, this activity targets the ASCs of health huts and the actual store keepers of health posts and health centers i.e. those who actually order drugs and manage the drug stores of the different facilities, who to date have limited skills in store management.

An appropriate training program will be scheduled in each district depending on the other activities so as to not overburden staff. If there is already some other training for that target group scheduled, the store management module will be added on to that, if not a separate training session will be planned. It is likely that regional or district-based training teams will conduct the trainings using materials and methods developed by RPM Plus in conjunction with BASICS II, MSH and various partners in the MoH. A draft of this training manual is already being tested in order to pitch the level of its contents appropriately. The material uses examples of certain drugs covering malaria and other childhood illnesses. Follow-up to this training will be carried out by the ICPs to which the health hut is attached or to whom the store keeper is responsible. The RPM Plus Senegal based technical advisor will oversee this activity

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Trained 80 ICPs in store management in 5 districts (Mbour, Louga, Nioro, Kaffrine and Mecke) as part of district coordinating meetings.		A strategy will be drawn up next quarter on how to roll out the store management training for ASCs. Follow up on training planned for 2 other districts.		

Last Updated: 09/30/2005

RPM Plus Activity and Product Status Report **Selection Criteria:** Reporting Year = Project Year 5 AND Reporting Quarter = Q3

Workplan: Senegal **Year** 03

Activity Title TA in drug management to malaria and child survival activities

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1SN03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60CXH8

Activity Description The RPM Plus technical advisor, in collaboration with BASICS II, backstopped by RPM Plus Washington, will provide technical assistance in drug management to a variety of child survival activities supported by BASICS II. This will include the operational research of community management of ARI pneumonia which may have a malaria component added to it once the policy change has been confirmed and can be operationalised. There will also be continued input to the PIC strategy especially with the changes in malaria treatment which need to be integrated. The technical advisor will also participate on the IMCI technical committee.

As the various protocols for malaria in pregnancy and malaria treatment change, documents, such as standard treatment guidelines (STGs), Essential Drugs Lists (EDLs) IMCI guidelines and reproductive Health protocols, will need to be revised and additional documents e.g. IPT guidelines, will need to be developed. RPM Plus will assist USAID, PNLP, the DSSP, the PNA, DPL, the IMCI technical committee and other relevant bodies in reviewing any documents

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Participated in a workshop to review the training modules for IMCI.		Finalize the corrected IMCI training modules with BASICS.		

Last Updated: 07/15/2005

Workplan: Senegal **Year** 03

Activity Title Increase the capacity of drug sellers in private pharmacies in rational drug use for malaria and other IMCI conditions, thus improving

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1SN03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60EXH9

Activity Description From the findings of the DMCI and the community DMCI surveys conducted by the MoH, RPM Plus and BASICS II, it was noted that the private sector pharmacies are a common source of drugs for sick children. It was also noted that often the advice and drugs provided were not in line with the national IMCI guidelines. After conducting an orientation with private pharmacists to raise their awareness of IMCI, rational drug use and the national treatment protocols for malaria and childhood illnesses, RPM Plus will assist the MoH and the ordre and syndicat of pharmacists to conduct training sessions with the drug sellers of private pharmacies. This first phase of the activity will focus on the pharmacies outside of Dakar.

RPM Plus will work with different sections of the MoH (PNA, DPL and regional and district supervisors) and the ordre and syndicat to develop mechanisms to follow up and conduct supervision in the pharmacies after the training to monitor the improvement in drug use.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	An orientation of 50 pharmacists was completed in Dakar.		Finalize reports of all orientations. FInalize the training manual for the counter assistants training. Follow up with partners to finalize the system of supervision following the counter assistants training.		

Last Updated: 09/30/2005

Workplan: Senegal **Year** 04

Activity Title Supervision

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1SN04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60EXH2

Activity Description The supervision mechanisms need to be strengthened in order to ensure that the new skills and expertise are implemented to improve drug availability at the facility level. Regular supervision is needed in each district of activities of the peripheral curative structures. RPM Plus will work with the DSSP, DANSE and PNLP of the MoH, the district teams, as well as BASICS, MSH, FHI and other partners implementing activities in the USAID districts to set up a mechanism for regular supervision which will include indicators of drug use and availability for child survival, including malaria.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Conducted formative supervision visits in Tivaouane and Khombole with the other members of the MSH team.		Plan supervision with MSH and partners.		

Last Updated: 09/08/2005

Workplan: Senegal **Year** 04

Activity Title Continued technical assistance to the PNA, DPL and PNLP to ensure appropriate implementation of the new malaria treatment

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1SN04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60F4H3

Activity Description RPM Plus will provide input and TA where necessary in the implementation of the new malaria treatment policy and possibly participate in the implementation committee for the new treatment recommendation. Technical assistance will be provided to the PNLP and the PNA in the quantification of antimalarials and to ensure that pre-packing for antimalarials is carried out appropriately.

Additionally, RPM Plus will work with MSH/Senegal, PNA, PNLP and the reproductive health department (SNSR) to ensure that SP is available in appropriate quantities through the PNC and the medication is given by Directly Observed Therapy and for no additional cost.

It is expected that this activity will be carried out throughout the workplan year.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Facilitated the search for logisticians and consultants for the PNLP. Participated in meetings to choose ACTs, nets, rapid testing and re-impregnations for nets		The needs assessment report is being finalized. Follow up with PNLP coordinator on the plan for distribution of ACTs and nets.		

Last Updated: 09/02/2005

Workplan: Senegal **Year** 04

Activity Title Work with private sector pharmacy drug vendors to improve selling practices for malaria and other IMCI conditions

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 4 **Task:** A1SN04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60C5H4

Activity Description During FY04, RPM Plus will assist the MoH and the ordre and syndicat of pharmacists to conduct training sessions with the drug sellers of private pharmacies in the USAID zones.

RPM Plus will work with different sections of the MoH (PNA, DPL and regional and district supervisors) and the ordre and syndicat to develop mechanisms to follow up and conduct supervision in the pharmacies after the training to monitor the improvement in drug use.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	FY03 funds are being used for this activity.				

Last Updated: 09/30/2005

Workplan: Senegal **Year** 04

Activity Title Technical assistance to the MoH, FHI and MSH to improve pharmaceutical management for HIV/AIDS

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1SN04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60F2A5

Activity Description The child survival, malaria and RH teams of RPM Plus will provide TA in the design of the commodity assessment for HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria. RPM Plus will work with the local teams, involving the key stakeholders to validate the survey instruments and facilitate the data collection training and then will conduct the analysis and interpretation with the local partners. RPM Plus will co-facilitate at a strategy workshop to present the results to stakeholders, where the first draft of an action plan will be developed. RPM Plus will work with the local partners to finalize the plan and will be involved in certain aspects of its implementation.

Additionally RPM Plus will work with FHI on the implementation of PMTCT, having input into the training materials and follow-up supervision of implementation.
RPM Plus will also work with FHI, MSH and the MoH to assure the availability of drugs needed for the treatment of STIs.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Data analysis was completed and sections of the report drafted and disseminated to partners for comment. Preparation for the results workshop was commenced including presentations, working group themes, logistics, and agenda.		A workshop to present the results of the assessment will be held in August.		

Last Updated: 09/30/2005

Workplan: Senegal **Year** 04

Activity Title Technical assistance to the MOH in the national roll-out of the community management of ARI

Activity Manager Briggs, Jane **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1SN04XXX **Sub-Task:** 60F6H6

Activity Description RPM Plus provided TA to the operational research phase of community management of ARI, which, following its success, has been proposed by the MoH to be rolled out on a national level. RPM Plus, in collaboration with BASICS and other CAs and partners will support the MOH in this roll-out by providing pharmaceutical management TA as well as training and supervision materials where necessary.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Participated in a national level meeting to plan and budget the community ARI roll out, as well as a regional meeting to plan how to advocate for CCM in the region (held by AED/AWARE). Participated in budget planning exercise with pilot committee for districts in the second phase of research.		Follow up with other members of the committee for C-ARI pilot projects.		

Last Updated: 09/02/2005

Workplan: Zambia **Year** 03

Activity Title To develop a Voluntary Counseling and Testing/PMTCT Management Information System and Health Commodities Supply

Activity Manager Muneene, Derrick **Activity #** 2 **Task:** A1ZM03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60GXH2

Activity Description RPM Plus will work with the PMTCT stakeholders to analyze the information collected and identify appropriate indicators and formats to be integrated into the evaluated VCT Information and commodity management information system. The agreed indicators and formats will be piloted in 10 PMTCT sites in the month of November 2003. Lessons learnt will be used to develop an integrated VCT/PMTCT information and commodity management system.

RPM+, having evaluated the system, will produce the tools on a mass scale for final implementation. As the system will have stabilized by then, it will be necessary to launch the system formally, in more formal packaging. This activity is planed to be executed in December, 2003.

Once the system is fully functional, all users trained and the computerized system running, RPM+ will monitor the systems performance, providing updates and technical assistance as the system may require. The sites will also be monitored to ensure good system functionality. This is to ensure smooth operation of the system. Selected sites and / or district health management teams will be visited.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	1. Conducted a national training of provincial and district information officers in automated VCT/PMTCT commodity and information management systems (May). 2. Supported supportive supervision to strengthen the implementation of the VCT/PMTCT Information and commodity management system through district facilitation, and automation of systems(May/June) 3. Supported the printing of VCT/PMTCT Registers (April/May) 4. Monitoring and evaluation the ZVCT VCT/PMTCT MIS and provision of Technical assistance to ZVCT (April/July)	The pace of implementation was much dependent on the availability of CBoH staff to ensure technology transfer	Teach HMIS District officers on transfer of data from VCT data base to VCT/PMTCT automated data base (August)		

Last Updated: 04/13/2006

Workplan: Zambia **Year** 03

Activity Title Antimalarial Drug Management and Use for child health survival through the Private/Public partnership

Activity Manager Hazemba, Oliver **Activity #** 3 **Task:** A1ZM03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60F4H3

Activity Description RPM Plus will continue to work with NMCC and assist to develop a concept paper, pilot and evaluate Artemether-Lumefantrine distribution through the private sector. In addition, RPM Plus will assist NMCC Pharmacy and Poisons Pharmacogivilance system. The activity will commence during the first quarter.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Participated in the malaria case management and research technical working group		Support NMCC and SFH in the private-public partnership to increase assess to ACT		

Last Updated: 04/13/2006

Workplan: Zambia **Year** 03

Activity Title To provide technical assistance on national drug policy implementation strategies

Activity Manager Hazemba, Oliver **Activity #** 5 **Task:** A1ZM03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60EXM5

Activity Description The RPM Plus Program has been assisting the MoH/CBoH in developing and implementing the essential drugs concept in the country. RPM Plus assisted the Zambia Government in the development of the NDP, Formulary Management and promotion of Rational Use of Drugs.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No progress				

Last Updated: 04/13/2006

Workplan: Zambia **Year** 03

Activity Title Participate and provide technical leadership to the ZNFC and National Drug Policy Steering Committee on formulary management

Activity Manager Hazemba, Oliver **Activity #** 6 **Task:** A1ZM03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60EXA6

Activity Description RPM Plus will work with the National Drug Policy Implementation Steering Committee to complete the NDP Masterplan and develop monitoring and evaluation indicators. This activity is planned to commence in the first quarter and continue the whole year.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No progress				

Last Updated: 04/13/2006

Workplan: Zambia **Year** 03

Activity Title Provide support to the LUDHMT DTC on rational use of drugs and AMR

Activity Manager Hazemba, Oliver **Activity #** 7 **Task:** A1ZM03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60F2E7

Activity Description In year 4, RPM Plus will work with LUDHMT DTC to assess the results interventions identified and implemented in year 3. This activity is planned for the second quarter.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	No progress				

Last Updated: 04/13/2006

Workplan: Zambia **Year** 03

Activity Title Participate and facilitate the University of Zambia Pharmacy Department in INRUD Zambia Chapter and AMR

Activity Manager Hazemba, Oliver **Activity #** 8 **Task:** A1ZM03XXX **Sub-Task:** 60EXH8

Activity Description RPM Plus will facilitate INRUD/APUA meetings, and develop activities to promote rational use of drugs, AMR and introduction of the concepts in the pharmacy curricula and provide drug information. RPM Plus will also identify research and learning on Rational Use of Drugs and AMR.

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	Facilitated one training course for trainers for pharmacy interns. Nine tutors were trained in April 12-14, 2005		Continue to support the University of Zambia Pharmacy Department with the internship program		

Last Updated: 04/13/2006

Workplan: Zambia PEP 1.5 **Year** 04

Activity Title To strengthen the capacity of pharmacy and laboratory services to support ART activities at levels 2 and 3 hospitals

Activity Manager Hazemba, Oliver **Activity #** 1 **Task:** A1ZM04HIP **Sub-Task:** 97XXY1

Activity Description
• Conduct site preparedness assessment of the targeted hospitals
• Develop training materials for pharmacy and lab personnel in all 7 provincial hospitals and three Central Hospitals trained in appropriate use of ARVs,
• Develop Pharmacy and lab standard operating procedures (SOPs) for ART developed
• National drug selection, quantification and procurement procedures for ART commodities developed
* Strenthening the implementation of commodity and drug information management system in support of ART services

	Activity Progress	Barriers to Progress	Next Steps	Products Planned	Progress on Products
Project Year 5 Q3	• Conducted five day training in ART Pharmacy and Laboratory Services management. The training also involved orientation of new pharmacy personnel, particularly the Nigerian pharmacists recently recruited. April • ART Database User's meeting was held in April 4-5 • Supported the review and production of National Laboratory Safety Manual June • Conducted supportive supervision to strengthen the commodity and information management system in support of ART services May/June • National ART Commodities selection, quantification and procurement procedures for ART commodities meeting April • Finalized the Standard Operating Procedures • 3000 Pharmacy Standard Operating Procedures were printed May/June • 1000 Laboratory Standard Operating Procedures were printed April/May	To implement planned activities on time was a major constraint mainly to non availability of CBoH staff in a timely manner	• Edit the 'Training in Facility-Based Quantification for HIV/AIDS Related Commodities". July • Edit "Training in ART Pharmacy and Laboratory management' July • Install of ORION@MSH data base and MSL (process started in July)		

Last Updated: 04/10/2006